FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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REACTIONARY U.S. CIRCLES TRYING TO WRECK SALT AGREEMENT

LD151521Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[From the international review by S. Modenov in response to a reader's question: "A Vital Task of the Times"]

[Text] How are the Soviet-U.S. SALT talks proceeding? (from V. Zelenko, Polotsk).

It is impossible to achieve the reduction of the arms race without the solution of the problem of strategic arms limitation. You will of course know, Comrade Zelenko, that the Soviet-U.S. talks on this issue have been running for several years now. Practical results have been achievedsuch as the treaty on the limitation of ABM systems, the interim agreement on certain measures with respect to the limitation of strategic offensive arms, and the Vladivostok accord regarding the conclusion of a new long-term agreement on the limitation of strategic offensive arms.

However, for reasons beyond the Soviets Union's control, work on drawing up this important agreement has not yet been completed.

Since the 1974 Vladivostok summit, the U.S. side has attempted in the course of the talks to secure a revision of the agreements reached and to obtain one-sided military advantages for the United States. Of course, this approach to solving the problem has not promoted the attainment of progress at the talks. Time and much effort has been required on the part of the Soviet Union to lead the talks back once again to those fundamental directions which were jointly determined by the Soviet and U.S. sides at Vladivostok. In this respect, the Soviet-U.S. meetings in Moscow in March 1977, in Geneva in May the same year and in Washington in September, were of important significance.

It would appear that all the necessary conditions have now been created for completing the practical drafting of the text of documents--a treaty effective through 1985; a protocol on certain interim measures; and also a possible joint statement on the basic directions for future talks on new measures in the sphere of limiting and subsequently reducing strategic arms. But this development of events was patently not to the taste of reactionary U.S. circles, which are opposing the positive development of Soviet-U.S. relations and the relaxation of tension. Acting so as to please the military-industrial magnates, they are now trying to retard and even wreck an accord on strategic arms limitation under the false slogan of the need to defend U.S. national interests in the face of the "Soviet military threat." The fraudulent and absurd nature of such provocative arguments is obvious.

The Soviet people and the world's peace-loving people believe that those who are trying to wreck or drag out the conclusion of a Soviet-U.S. agreement are acting contrary to the interests of strengthening peace and security and adding a dangerous new twist to the arms race spiral.

IZVESTIYA CITES BACKING FOR REASONABLE SOVIET SALT STAND

LD151445 [Editorial Report LD] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 February 1978 Morning Edition carries on page 4 a feature entitled "Realistic Program for Curbing the Arms Race."

The feature comprises: a brief editorial introduction noting the worldwide movement in support of Soviet arms curb proposals; a 200-word TASS correspondent's New York dispatch, which was published in the 15 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page AA 1; three 300-word contributions from Western figures, the main trust of which is to portray the reasonableness of the Soviet stance and the "hawkishness" of the U.S. position with reference to the current status of the SALT talks. Thus, Gunner Mattissen, secretary of the FRG's Committee for Peace, Disarmament and Cooperation, notes that "the Soviet Union's position in the SALT talks is a reasonable one inasmuch as it proceeds from the fact that the results of agreement must be that neither side acquires advantages and neither side prejudices its own security." Criticizing the U.S. position, which seeks to tilt the balance in favor of the United States, Mattissen claims: "You cannot seriously expect the Soviet Union to waive its own interests or those of world peace so that the U.S. military-industrial complex may continue the arms race."

Like Mattissen, the contribution from Miriam Vire-Tuominen, secretary general of the peace supporters of Finland movement and a parliamentary deputy, refers to the 11 February PRAVDA editorial article, which, the author asserts, demonstrates the presistency and consistency of Soviet efforts in the arms limitation sphere. "But as the facts prove, there are influential circles in the United States which are erecting every conceivable obstacle in the way of the negotiations currently in progress. These circles are clearly seeking to revise the accords reached between the Soviet Union and the United States in Vladivostok, and with this goal in mind they are advancing groundless claims. The aim of such maneuvers is obvious: to place the Soviet Union in an inequitable position, to acquire advantages, and then to endeavor to negotiate with it from a position of strength." The author conclud "As L.I. Brezhnev has remarked, there is no lack of readiness on the Soviet Union's part to see the Soviet-U.S. negotiations through to a successful conclusion. Opportuntities--and fair opportuntities at that--exist for this. I would like to believe that sooner or later a sober approach to the disarmament problem will prevail in the United States. We are certain that a new Soviet-U.S. agreement would be a good thing both for the two great powers and for general peace."

The third contribution, from French journalist Marcel Peyrene, makes no direct mention of the PRAVDA editorial article. Having noted the "potential" opened up by the Vladivostok accord in the context of further strategic arms agreements between the USSR and the United States, a potential he implies is jeopardized by the current deadlock, he warns of the "global catastrophe" which may result from the seemingly endless stockpiling of nuclear and missile arms: "Therefore, the question of how to reduce these dangerous stockpiles troubles all people, great and small. And therefore they cannot accept the attempts by U.S. military-industrial circles to resurrect the 'brinkmanship' policy. If you listen to certain NATO representatives or U.S. politicians, then you sometimes get the impression that they would seemingly like to improve the old strategic arms limitation agreement during the current negotiations. But it is not difficult to discern another aim behind these good intentions: to acquire one-sided advantages in their favor. It is perfectly natural that the Soviet Union cannot agree to the violation of the principle of equality in such an important issue."

WORLD PRESS CONTINUES TO PRAISE PRAVDA ARTICLE ON SALT

LD160850Y Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 16 Feb 78 LD

[Excerpts] Moscow, February 16, TASS--Discussing and commenting on the position of the USSR set forth in the PRAVDA article, distinguished political leaders and public figures of various countries and the press point out that the Soviet Union, true to its principled policy of peace, continues the firm course towards making progress in strategic arms limitation. This consistent and constructive line of the USSR facilitated, ultimately, a return of the talks on this problem, developing, as is common knowledge, unevenly and encountering serious difficulties to those principled directions, which were worked out at the Soviet-American summit meeting in Vladivostok, way back in 1974.

The London TIMES says that the PRAVDA article is a clear-cut and authoritative warning to the USA Congress that the Soviet Union will not agree to "concessions" concerning the deployment of cruise missiles in NATO countries. Many organs of the international press emphasised that those U.S. circles which, contrary to the spirit of the time, oppose reaching of the SALT-2 agreement, run counter to the interests of international security, to the national interests of the United States itself. As Herbert Scoville, a former adviser at the U.S. Defence Department, reasonably remarks, the greatest disaster for our security, just as for our pocket, would be not the conclusion of the SALT-2 treaty but, on the contrary, its absence. As for the position of the Soviet Union, which is consistently coming out for a halt in the production of nuclear weapons by all countries, for disarmament, down to general and complete disarmament, it has been and still is immutable. The USSR is for the early conclusion of the SALT-2 agreement, which can serve as a launching platform from where the road to a reduction of strategic arms could begin.

INDIAN, CSSR, FRG DELEGATES ADDRESS DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE

LD142120Y Moscow TASS in English 2040 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Geneva, February 14, TASS--Representatives of India, Czechoslovakia and the FRG took the floor at the regular plenary meeting of the Disarmament Committee here today. The Indian representative in the Disarmament Committee, Ambassador S.R. Garehan, noted that nuclear disarmament was the central problem on the road towards the ending of the arms race. He pointed to the importance of the earliest possible conclusion of a treaty on the complete and general banning of nuclear weapon tests, which is being drawn up by the USSR, United States and Britain. Dwelling on the problem of banning the development of new types and systems of mass annihilation weapons, S.R. Garehan noted that India actively backed the Soviet initiative on this question. The Disarmament Committee, the Indian representative said, must exert every effort to prevent the emergence of new types and systems of mass annihilation weapons. He stressed in this connection that the development and deployment of neutron weapons should be prohibited.

The Czechoslovak representative, V. Ruzek, noted in his statement that relaxation in the military sphere lagged behind the political detente. He went on record for the calling of a world conference on disarmament, which could discuss all the aspects of the disarmament problem and take effective measures in the given domain. The Czechoslovak representatave seconded the Soviet initiatives in nuclear disarmament and pointed to their importance and timeliness. An important role in ending the arms race, M. Ruzek noted, must be played by a ban on new types and systems of mass annihilation weapons. The representative of Czechoslovakia pointed out that the production and deployment of neutron weapons in Europe was in utter contradiction to peace and security, [and] that it should be banned.

The FRG representatave, G. Pfeiffer, backed the idea of convening a special session of the United Nations General Assembly on disarmament.

IZVESTIYA COMMENTS ON CSCE PROCEEDINGS, ATTACKS GOLDBERG

LD152112Y Moscow TASS in English 2023 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--IZVESTIYA political observer Vikentiy Matveyev writes that given the desire and good will and taking into account the considerable amount of work already done by the Belgrade forum it would be possible to have the agreed text of the final document already now. However, artificial obstacles have arisen, Vikentiy Matveyev writes commenting on the final stage of the meeting attended by the countries, participants in the European conference.

Contrary to the instructions on the tasks of the Belgrade meeting clearly formulated in the final act, the American and some other Western delegations would like to picture things in such a way as if the meeting was called not to exchange views on this vital problem but for other quite different purposes alien to constructive and positive tasks. This despite the fact that the principles of the final act were determined by the considerations of strengthening security and the development of cooperation in Europe as well as the advancement of the relaxation of tension. The observer says that despite the persistent bombastic hammering away at the topic of the so-called human rights by those Western delegations, such attempts to distort the contents of the useful work accomplished by the forum are not becoming more convincing.

"The crudely utilitarian purposes of the attempts to whip up a campaign of fabrications about the domestic and foreign policies of the socialist countries under the cover of defending 'human rights' was disclosed by none other than General Haig, supreme allied commander of NATO forces in Europe," the observer points out. According to General Haig, the U.S. campaign with that slogan has helped improve "Western military defense." So the above-mentioned campaign and the arms race are like the Siamese twins. This is the moral of General Haig and other initiators of such methods borrowed from the arsenal of the opponents of international cooperation.

The American press has reported that before the Belgrade meeting resumed its work in mid-January, the head of the American delegation Arthur Goldberg had "consulted" members of the riff-raff emigree circles from East European countries in the United States and also "dissidents" expelled from the Soviet Union. That is where he draws his inspiration from in a bid to read a meaning into the final document of the Belgrade meeting which would suit him and his "advisers".

"The head of the U.S. delegation sees nothing reprehensible about the public praise to those Washington politicians who have been 'warning' West European countries of late about communist participation in their governments. Goldberg considers such American interference in the domestic affairs of other countries 'natural'."

Yet no matter how much fuss the pseudochampions of "human rights" might make or what refined tricks they might use at the Belgrade meeting, nothing is going to come out of it. The delegations from the socialist countries point out that they are prepared, if need be, to work round the clock to shape out such a final document, without protracting the forum anymore, which would reflect the main thing for which the Belgrade meeting was convened and worked. This is the strengthening of security, the development of cooperation and the advancement of relaxation on the European Continent.

USSR WITHDRAWS FROM CSCE HUMANITARIAN PROBLEMS GROUP

LD152156Y Belgrade TANJUG in English 2119 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 15 (TANJUG)--Yuliy Vorontsov, chief Soviet delegate at the Belgrade meeting of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, told a meeting of the informal subsidiary drafting group for humanitarian questions earlier this evening that the Soviet delegation will no longer take part in its work. Vorontsov referred to his conclusion that no consensus could emerge on the positions and proposals of non-bloc countries concerning humanitarian problems. His explanation was supported by some East European countries.

This explanation, however, was not accepted by a number of neutral non-aligned and other participating countries. Thus, Swiss delegate Renk said that although agreement on all questions has not yet been reached, the proposals of neutral and non-aligned countries have greatly helped bring positions on many questions closer. For these countries, the Swiss diplomat added, the proposals they have submitted remain the only possible basis for negotiation. Renk also noted that nothing in the drafting group's work suggests it should cease.

FRG PEACE COMMITTEE ADDRESSES CSCE ON NEUTRON BOMB

LD141232Y Moscow TASS in English 1224 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Bonn, February 14, TASS--The West German Committee for Peace, Cooperation and Disarmament sent a letter to the parties to the Belgrade meeting of states which participated in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, urging them "in the spirit of Helsinki, constructively to promote consolidation of security and cooperation on the European Continent." The committee stressed the importance of taking effective steps in the sphere of military detente. On behalf of more than three million citizens of the FRG involved in the mass movement against the neutron weapon and for an end to the arms race, the committee called for the abandonment of the plans to manufacture the neutron bomb and to deploy it in Europe.

'NEOCOLONIALISM' RESTRUCTURED TO EXPLOIT LIBERATED COUNTRIES

LD141149Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 10 Feb 78 pp 3-4 LD

[Article by Doctor of Historical Sciences Prof K. Brutents: "Imperialism and the Liberated Countries"]

[Text] In the seventies the antagonism between imperialism and the liberated countries has intensified. Backed by the changed correlation of class forces in the world and by the support of socialism and utilizing the relaxation of tension, the peoples of these countries have achieved new successes. Their international position has strengthened, and progressive changes have occurred in many of them.

The defeats of imperialist policy have prompted its authors to amend the strategy and tactics of neocolonialism and made them seek new ways to realize their ends.

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The facts attest that substantial or even qualitative progress has been made in recent years in each of the main directions of the anti-imperialist struggle of the peoples of the liberated countries.

It was in precisely these years that the last colonial empire collapsed, and "imperialism's colonial system as a whole," as Comrade L.I. Brezhnev pointed out, "may now be considered liquidated in its classic forms." Of the approximately 160 nations of the world, more than 90 gained independence as a result of the collapse of this system. The walls of the last racist bastions are shaking.

Appreciable successes have been achieved in the struggle against political neocolonialism, as manifested most graphically in the collapse of the puppet governments in Indochina. Neocolonalist regimes have been liquidated in certain African countries, and a number of countries in Southeast Asia, Africa and Latin America have renounced inequitable treaties and agreements imposed by imperialist powers. Real substance is increasingly being breathed into the political independence of young nations.

The present stage of the confrontation between the liberated countries and imperialism is distinguished above all by a sharp turn in the struggle to limit and liquidate the capitalist world's exploitation of these countries. This has been expressed chiefly in two interrelated processes. One of them--the nationalization of the property of foreign companies--had begun earlier. It has now acquired such scope that it has become a qualitatively new phenomenon, having embraced, according to incomplete date, more than 40 young states of different orientation. The wave of nationalization has swept from Peru to India and from Libya to Madagascar, seriously weakening the power of international monopolies and the entire system of neocolonial exploitation created by world financial capital.

The other front of the struggle has essentially been opened up for the first time. The liberated countries have advanced and are championing the platform of the "new economic order," demanding the radical restructuring of economic relations with the imperialist world. Their demands have gained real strength above all, by these countries' joint promotion of their interests, their increased cohesion in the face of imperialism and also the influence of world socialism.

These actions have become particularly significant with respect to the exacerbation of the raw materials problem, when the economies of the leading capitalist states have found themselves unprecedently dependent on imports of raw materials. Even the United States, which has large oil deposits, now imports up to 48 percent of the oil it consumes.

Mass nationalization of the monopolies' property and collective statements for a "new economic order" pointedly signify the start of a new shift in relations between the liberated countries and imperialism--a shift whose consequences could have a significance comparable with the disintegration of the colonial empires.

The result of all these changes has been a considerable growth in the role of former enslaved countries in world politics. An important new point has been reached in this process, which is more or less characteristic of the whole postwar period. This has found expression in the growing activeness of the nonalined movement.

The strengthening of the positions of the liberated countries in the anti-imperialist struggle is closely linked with profound internal changes, which are leading to a final break with the colonial past in politics and economics, in social relations and spiritual culture. This process is not occurring smoothly; zigzags and even regression are apparent in it, and it is encountering great difficulties.

But this is perfectly natural for a process on such a scale and of such complexity, and in no way belittles its worldwide historic importance.

The economies of many young states have changed noticeably, although their position in the capitalist world economy has not undergone any fundamental changes. Industry's share of the gnp of former colonial and dependent countries now stands at approximately 15 percent. Despite the continuing acute need for cadres, a number of these countries already have many specialists, who have had considerable training with the held of the socialist world.

There are hardly any former colonies or semicolonies left whose direction of development has not been determined. They are chiefly the most backward states of tropical Africa. Those countries which are developing along capitalist lines are differentiated both by level and by nature. Some of them have for the most part reached capitalism's average level of development, although their economies have been deformed by the consequences of the colonial period. The positions of those countries whose economies may conventionally be called "dependent" capitalism and thoso which are trying to move toward independence from neocolonialism, while retaining the capitalist system, are also different.

The development of capitalism--particularly in a channel of national independence--does not remove or even blunt but merely modifies the antagonism between the liberated countries and imperialism, also introducing an element of intercapitalist contradictions. V. I. Lenin substantiated the conclusion that imperialism, by accelerating the development of capitalism in enslaved countries, "thereby broadens and intensifies the struggle against national oppression" (Complete Collected Works Vol 30 p 132). As the experience of young states shows, this trend still operates today; it resists the desire of certain groups of the local bourgeoisie for "partnership" with imperialist monopolies.

The results of the development of countries with a socialist orientation are not identical either. On the whole, events have confirmed that the tendency toward a socialist orientation begins during the liberation struggle of the peoples of Asia and Africa and is reproduced over and over again--despite all the difficulties and sometimes even temporary defeats. The circle of countries with this orientation has expanded, and the positions of revolutionary democratic forces have strengthened in a number of other countries. As was pointed out at the 25th CPSU Congress, progressive new changes have occurred in the economic and political life of states with a socialist orientation, many of which have entered their third and fourth 5-year periods.

The increasingly obvious crystallization of the direction of development of young states is leading to a change in the correlation of the national and social aspects in the liberation struggle, to the intensification of class conflict on a broader nationwide scale. This frequently happens, in forms which reflect the inadequately expressed social demarcation and incompleteness of the process of forming nations. The national, anti-imperialist and anticolonial thrust of development is not losing its paramount significance, but the class struggle is increasingly becoming a key factor in resolving national liberation tasks as well.

Social differentiation is also becoming increasingly apparent in the former colonial and dependent world at an interstate level, giving rise to contradictions and conflicts which have an unhealthy effect on joint actions against imperialism. The spread of capitalist relations in a number of liberated countries and the growth of exploiter classes also produces some contradictions in the aforesaid generally progressive processes. Thus certain forces in these countries, seek to pursue a line of "equal opposition" in world politics, ignoring the fundamental differences between imperialist and socialist states. And limiting the plundering of former colonies and semicolonies by monopolies sometimes leads to the enrichment of the privileged leadership of these countries, which use their new financial potential in the interests of reaction and imperialism.

2.

The successes of the liberated countries in the anti-imperialist struggle and their growing international weight in connection with the general development of the world situation have engendered crisis phenomena in neocolonialism. This applies both to its policy and to the forms of dependence imposed by it. The events of recent years have made imperialism's leaders reassess the economic, political and social significance of young states for the capitalist world.

Imperialist strategists have been forced to increase their attention to former colonial and dependent countries. The restructuring or "modernization" of neocolonialism has begun with a view to adapting it to modern realities and to the special features of the peoples' liberation struggle. Above all, a system of measures has been formulated to assist the accelerated development of "dependent" capitalism in liberated countries on the basis of their more lasting and more intensive involvement in the international capitalist division of labor. In implementing this policy the imperialists sometimes resort to certain concessions or seek solutions more or less acceptable to the ruling groups of young states.

Special efforts are being concentrated in the economic sphere, where imperialism holds strong positions while the liberated countries are still in a vulnerable position. The gap between these countries and imperialist states in terms of a number of important economic indicators is continuing to grow. Whereas in 1963 the per capita GNP of former colonies and semicolonies was 12.5 times less than in the industrially developed countries, in 1974 it was 14.1 times less ($321 against $4,550). According to some figures, the financial debt of the liberated countries has risen to almost $200 billion--which naturally hampers their implementation of an independent economic policy.

The neocolonialists' policy presupposes the creation in these countries of not only auxiliary but also some basic industrial sectors, including heavy industry, mainly oriented toward exports to capitalist states. Former colonial and dependent countries are being prepared for the role of a raw-materials and industrial-agrarian appendage of world capitalism. The realization of this policy and the implementation of specific economic plans and programs is becoming, in addition to private capital, the direct business of imperialist states, frequently on a collective basis.

It is already possible to speak of scientific and technical dependence as one of the main reasons for the subordination to imperialism of those liberated countries which have made the greatest economic progress. The dependent nature of industrialization is also insured by the leading role placed by foreign capital and multinational companies. The influx of direct private investments from capitalist states into the developing countries totaled $18,376,000,000 in 1975-1976--1.5 times more than in 1973-1974 and 2.2 times more than in 1971-1972. In bilateral relations with developing countries it is not by chance that imperialist states do their utmost to parade the "mission" of private foreign capital at international forums and insistently demand privileges for it.

Thus the strategy of neocolonialism, while retaining its essence, merely modifies itself to exploit the possibilities being opened up by the scientific and technical revolution. It is now orienting itself toward the liberated countries' higher level of economic (capitalist) development and presupposes more refined forms of dependence. In fact a new attempt is being made to solve a problem with which imperialism has failed to cope throughout the postwar period: to blunt the anti-imperialist struggle of the liberated countries and to achieve in them the victory of capitalist relations and the establishment of "dependent" and, one might say, "backward" capitalism.

With regard to the demands for a "new economic order" the imperialists have chosen delaying tactics in order to gain time by involving the liberated countries in a "dialog." They are counting on achieving a split among these countries and on forcing them to retreat from their avowed demands by exploiting the difficult economic situation in many young states and also the growing social and political stratification in former colonies and semicolonies. The neocolonialists are now provoking discord among them with particular zeal.

The imperialists are hiding their negative stand behind noisy declarations of "good will" and publicity stunts like agreeing to set up a $1-billion fund to aid developing countries and to hold talks on stabilizing the prices of raw materials. Other outflanking maneuvers are also being employed. They are artificially encouraging the tendency to divide the world's states into "rich" and "poor" in order to prompt the liberated countries to recognize the thesis of the "common responsibility" of all developed countries for the existing socioeconomic situation of former colonies and semicolonies. This is a form of subversive action against cooperation between the socialist and developing countries which is now being employed widely by imperialist propaganda and diplomacy, and it is one of the main directions in the strategy of neocolonialism.

There are also appreicable changes in the political methods of realizing the socioeconomic and political course of neocolonialism. During the disintegration of the colonial system, particularly at the start of the sixties, neocolonialism had two possible courses of action and vacillated between them. One was the implanting of dictatorial and tyrannical, blatantly proimperialist regimes opposed to change in some way or other. The other was support for the moderate reformism of regimes with a bourgeois-democratic facade, in order to attract the broadest possible social forces into the channel of "dependent" capitalism.

When the new administration came to power in the United States there was another shift of accent--at least in some parts of the former colonial and semicolonial world--in the direction of the reformist variant, without ruling out support for military dictator regimes, of course.

The neocolonialists have unwound new threads stretching to the social elite in a number of liberated countries which is taking advantage of the exacerbation of the energy and raw materials problem in order to get rich. Unprecedented financial cooperation is being arranged to "link" the interests of the ruling circles and also the emerging haute bourgeoisie to the interests of the private and state monopoly capital of the imperialist powers. At the same time, the political actions of neocolonialism and local reaction are being coordinated against progressive forces in several parts of the world. A new, specific, international reactionary social coalition is being formed.

One form of cooperation is the recirculation of "petrodollars," in other words, the return of "petrodollars" to the industrially developed capitalist countries, where they are invested in state securities and in the assets of large industrial, commercial and insurance companies. In 1975-1976 alone $22 billion was recirculated to the United States. Moreover, "petrodollars" are actively used to boost the capitalist development of oil-producing countries and other former colonial and dependent countries and strengthen their trade and economic ties with the imperialist world and also to pressurize the policy of progressive young states.

Apparently the coalition we are talking about has even wider spheres of political collaboration. Saudi Arabian Petroleum Minister Yamani noted that his country was against an increase in oil prices because it was "interested in the political stability" of the West European countries and "in no circumstances does it want leftwing forces to strengthen their positions there."

It is becoming increasingly clear that neocolonialism is pursuing a policy of creating "subimperialist" hotbeds and strong points in various parts of the "Third World." This applies to countries whose course is likely to reflect imperialism's policy and whose claims of regional dominance it is prepared to support on these terms. As expected, they are already a substantial factor in the struggle against the socialist, anti-imperialist orientation in the Near East, in the Persian Gulf and in other regions.

Attention is drawn also to the obvious activation of the trend toward collective "neocolonialism." Despite the different approaches to a number of problems of mutual relations with liberated countries adopted by the United States and the EC countries and their increasin rivalry in this sphere, the imperialists are seeking to muffle the contradictions which have been so obvious in recent years and to arrange coordinated action and even a kind of "division of labor" in the struggle against the liberation movement. China, which allies itself, in the international arena, with the most reactionary forces, is playing a definite part in this "division of labor."

Imperialism is using special tactics with regard to countries of socialist orientation. Open hostility is giving way to a policy of outward loyalty, which conceals persistent efforts to undermine this orientation. All kinds of methods are used: from coercion to attempts to stimulate the rebirth of reaction with the help of political, economic and ideological levers.

As can be seen, the neocolonialists' plans pose a great danger to young states. However, these plans have a fundamental and, perhaps, traditional weakness: They underestimate the historical potential and will of the people of the liberated countries which have overthrown colonial domination. Inspired by the example of socialism and relying on its support, these people are utterly determined fully to achieve their ambition for independence and social progress.

"No force in the world," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium noted in his report "Great October and the Progress of Mankind," "will eliminate from the world the results of the heroic revolutionary struggle of the masses, numbering many millions, in the former colonies and semicolonies of imperialism. The cause of the people's liberation is insuperable and the future belongs to it. The light kindled by October will not fade on his front of world history either."

There is every reason for thinking that in the next few years the system of neocolonial dependence created by imperialism on the ruins of colonial empires is doomed to show further cracks.

NEOFASCISM, HAVING NO MASS SUPPORT, DEPENDS ON NATO, MILITARY

LD101355Y Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 8 Feb 78 p 14 LD

[Ernst Genri article: "Generals on White Horses"]

[Text] Some people in the West ask: Surely in our time fascism does not still present a serious threat? And some people do not believe it.

It would seem that no new sinister figures like Hitler or Mussolini can be seen in the European theater. Fascist provocations and attacks in various countries are continuing and are even becoming more frequent, but where are the new fuehrers, known to all, with powerful organizations behind them? Can we indeed expect that they will emerge again?

In the West this question is frequently answered confidently with a no. The time of Hitlers or would/be Hitlers seems to have passed. The present neofascists are people who do not merit special attention and who lead small gangs of hooligans.

This is not so. Assertions of this sort distract us from the main point. The essential point does not lie in small gangs of thugs, with or without swastikas. There are influential neofascist forces in the capitalist world, but in our day they are concealed.

We cannot believe that fascism always, at any period of history, remains the same, that it is immobile and does not change its external forms or restructure its strategy and tactics, adapting to the situation. The experience of recent years proves that this is by no means the case. The main fascist forces in the seventies act differently from the way they acted in the twenties, thirties and forties, but their aims remain the same, and the serious threat has not left the horizon.

Without a Mass Base

What is the difference between new and old fascism? One thing above all.

Nowadays, there are indeed no mass fascist parties such as existed before the war in Germany, Italy, Austria, Spain and a few other countries, except to a certain extent in Italy. As a rule, the broad masses do not go to them now. By considering just this very important historical fact, it is possible to understand the fascists' present strategy.

It is enough to glance at the neofascist organizations which now exist in the biggest countries of the West. In the FRG, 0.3 percent of the voters voted for the neonazi National Democratic Party at the last Bundestag elections. According to official figures published a while ago, the party's members number no more than 15,000.

Let us recall that Hitler's party in 1933 had 849,000 members and that at the Reichstag elections that year it collected 17.27 million votes (as against the 12 million collected by the Social Democrats and Communists).

IN FRANCE, THE NEOFASCIST NATIONAL FRONT ORGANIZATION OBTAINED 2.7 PERCENT OF THE VOTES AT THE LAST ELECTIONS. THE BRITISH RACIST ORGANIZATION OF THE SAME NAME HAS ABOUT 16,000 MEMBERS. IN THE UNITED STATES THE NATIONAL SOCIALIST PARTY, ACTING UNDER THE BANNER OF THE SWASTIKA, NUMBERS A BARE FEW HUNDRED MEMBERS ALTHOUGH IT ASSERTS THAT THERE ARE THOUSANDS.

There were no mass fascist parties in Chile, Argentina, Uruguay or Greece when the military coups took place in these countries over the past decade. It is characteristic that in Chile, there is no mass fascist party even now.

Even in Italy, the neofascist Italian Social Movement alleges that it numbers several hundred thousand members (commentators dispute this), but at the June 1976 elections, it obtained only 6.1 percent of the votes (compared with 34.4 percent for the Communists and 9.6 percent for the Socialists), losing over two-thirds of its seats.

The figures speak for themselves: Some 33 years after the war, the masses have not returned to the fascists, and to all appearances, despite the acute crisis in the capitalist countries, they are not thinking of returning. No one can deny this now. The petty bourgeoisie, youth and unemployed in many countries now are turning not to the right but to the left.

It is true that the neofascists everywhere are feverishly trying to make good their loss of influence among the ranks of the petty bourgeoisie, youth and unemployed by the strenuous enlistment of the lumpen proletarians, who eagerly join the gangs of thugs, and also by enlisting some workers who succumb to racist agitation against colored people (this can be observed in Britain, for instance). But modern neofascism, AS A WHOLE, still has no mass base.

Does this mean that it has abandoned its plans to seize power in Western Europe for instance?

By no means. Just because the neofascists do not have the large-scale political parties that Hitler, Mussolini or Franco had does not mean they have in no way become less dangerous to mankind and above all to the Europeans. For instead of an overt mass base, they have another, concealed base, which is completely effective from their viewpoint.

Every antifascist, every honest person standing for peace and progress must now consider the existence of this base. It is a base of MILITARY or MILITARY-AUTHORITY FASCIST FORCES. There is no reason to believe that they are better than the old fascism.

Again the facts are known to all. All the reactionary coups in the capitalist world in the sixties and seventies, without exception, were organized under one or another of the military's authoritarian flags.

It is enough to recall Chile, Greece, (the "black colonels"), Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia and Uruguay. In Portugal the counterrevolutionary coups in 1974 and 1975 were prepared by General Spinola and his clique. In Spain extreme rightwing forces are forming groups around the military to this day. In Italy, as is well known, the rightwing generals have been trying for years now to establish a military dictatorship with the aid of NATO and the neofascists. This list could be continued.

Of course not all the generals who come to power in various countries as a result of these coups can be measured by the same yardstick or called Pinochet's doubles.

Each has particular "nuances," and many even talk about their "democratism." But they have all established or tried to establish authoritarian rule in their countries.

Generals on white horses! These are the true representatives of present-day neofascism who for the time being are concealed in the wings: those who, according to neofascism's designs, are intended to take the place of the masses who have surged back to the left. Pinochets instead of Hitlers and Mussolinis. Military coups instead of the chase after voters. Dictatorship of the "armed forces" instead of the SS. In both cases the result is essentially the same.

Of course, this is not just a matter of the designs of the neofascists themselves, of the megalomania of particular Pinochets or the rabid, violent anticommunism of all these adventurists. Even more important is the fact that behind the reactionary military in Western Europe stands a special force with great influence and almost boundless assets: NATO.

It is no secret that back in the fifties, at the height of the cold war, and then in the sixties, several very specific plans were elaborated under various codenames: "Oplan No 100-1", "Operation Prometheus," "Document 70/5" and others. Each envisages a lightning seizure of power by the military with the support of the police and fascist bands and--if required--NATO troops. Everything was specified right down to the last detail: when, how, with whom and where. Have all these NATO plans and directives been repealed since then? There is nothing to indicate it. On the contrary, there is every ground for believing that a group dealing with such matters exists in NATO headquarters to this very day.

In the event of "internal crisis situations" Oplan No 100-1 provides for U.S. intervention. The Operation Prometheus plan contained detailed instructions to the military of a particular country on how to act in order not to delay in seizing the initiative from the leftists. It may be supposed that since then, particularly since the recent events in Portugal and Spain, the number of these instructions has increased still further.

Target for the Parachutists

It is important to consider that under NATO pressure not only are armaments being built up, but the rightwing officer cadres are also being expanded in the West European armies.

FOR INSTANCE, IN THE ITALIAN GROUND ARMY WHICH SOME TIME AGO NUMBERED 250,000 MEN THERE WERE 200,000 OPERATING PERSONNEL. IN THE NAVY THERE WERE 15 ADMIRALS FOR EACH BIG WARSHIP.

IN THE SAME COUNTRY, ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, UNBRIDLED REACTIONARY PROPAGANDA IS BEING CONSTANTLY CONDUCTED IN THE ARMY AND NAVY. BACK IN 1972 IT WAS ESTABLISHED THAT 90 PERCENT OF THE PARATROOPERS HAD VOTED FOR THE NEOFASCISTS. THESE UNITS--AND NOT JUST IN ITALY--ARE REGULARLY DRILLED IN AN ANTICOMMUNIST SPIRIT.

It is not hard to imagine what role the paratroopers are assigned in military coups. To all appearances, the first strike against the leftwing forces and positions is allotted to them together with the fascists. This is an important part of today's counterrevolution technique. The fascists know how to make the streets run with blood: Even now there are fascist acts of terrorism which serve as a test for future large-scale actions. But it is planned to keep the command with the general on the white horse.

It is also noteworthy that former paratroopers and so-called "commandos," that is, professional saboteurs specially trained in the art of being cruel, now head a number of neofascist organizations in various countries.

It is frequently believed that the military is strong only in states like the United States or the FRG. This is incorrect. Even in a "classic" country of bourgeois democracy like Britain, Lord Chalfont, former secretary of state for foreign affairs, well-known for his pronouncements against detente, quite recently raised the following question in THE TIMES--the most authoritative of London's bourgeois papers: "Is a military coup possible in our country?" The lord answered by admitting that yes, it was possible. "An increasingly large number of people in our country," he wrote, "are beginning to examine seriously and not without pleasure the possibility of the establishment of authoritarian power in Britain." This would be a military-fascist regime.

Another "witness for the prosecution" is Strauss, the leader of the West German revanchists. Visiting Chile in November 1977 and fraternizing with Pinochet and his men, he publicly stated that their example should be followed.

There can be no doubt that Strausses are now being kept ready in other Western countries. The military-fascist forces are keeping them in reserve.

That is how the present-day fascists are thinking of implementing their plans and emerging into the world arena. Realizing that they have no roots among the people, they are steering toward confederates and rightwing officers in the armed forces.

The more restricted their mass base in a particular country, the more hope they pin on the conspiratorial anticommunist military and the more resolutely do they weave threads to it in some places. That is why the fascism of the seventies should not be measured by the old Hitlerite yardsticks.

And that is why Almirante, the leader of the Italian neofascists, said some time ago: "We are not the fascism which gesticulates, but the fascism which laughs. Laughs at the stupidity of its enemies." The implication was that the antifascists are not in touch with the latest strategy of their opponents. Almirante is wrong.

It is also undoubted that the "invisible" patrons of the military-authoritarian forces include not only the NATO headquarters. Some contacts are clearly being established with powerful military-industrial circles in various countries. The main thing for these circles is that the profascist generals stand resolutely for a sharp turn away from detente and toward a new cold war and for the continuation and acceleration of the arms race.

Finally, it may be regarded as definitely proven that the military-fascist circles have recently been in close contact with the Maoists.

Peking's close friendship with Pinochet is by no means fortuitous and it is not just a matter of Chinese-Chilean state relations. This is borne out by the recent, virtually unconcealed meeting between former Hitlerite generals and the Maoist leaders. Strauss's delighted statements to the Chinese leaders also belong here.

The Maoists clearly want to show that the military-authoritarian forces in the West with their anticommunist and anti-Soviet spearhead are completely to their liking. There is nothing surprising in this. For those who dream so passionately of a third world war, the generals on white horses in Europe are a welcome discovery.

Another question, perhaps, the most important, arises. Are the military-authoritarian juntas as powerful as the old fascism of the Hitlerite types?

Undoubtedly not. Without possessing a mass base, they are considerably weaker.

This has already been proved by events in Greece in 1974 and in Spain in 1976. At the decisive moment, in the face of the offensive of the antifascist forces, the reactionary generals and colonels, despite their troops and arms, simply became afraid of the people. General Spinola's defeat in Portugal in 1974-1975 points to the same thing. There can be no doubt that sooner or later the same fate will befall the Chilean regime too.

However crude the strategy of military fascism, it should of course, not be dismissed. The military has a well-trained and mobile force. Since the tsarist generals Kornilov, Krasnov, Denikin and Vrangel and following them the kaiser's military leaders Hindenburg, Ludendorff, Epp and (Lyutvits), laid the foundation for the "technique" of counterrevolution, much in it has been renovated. The main thing is the presence now of powerful transatlantic allies prepared for everything.

There can only be one answer from the working class and all democrats to the adventurist plans of present-day fascism: the further rallying and activation of the leftwing forces. Matters cannot be restricted merely to defense: History has proved that an antifascist offensive is essential. People today must never forget what happened in the thirties.

'COMPLAISANCE' WITH ANTICOMMUNISM HAS NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES

LD151501Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 10 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[V. Nekrasov article: "Under the Banner of Internationalism"]

[Text] The revolutionary transformation of the world is moving at a rapid pace and with increasing scope. The victory of Great October, the emergence and strengthening of the world socialist system, the growth of the workers and national liberation movement and the building of a developed socialist society in our country--those are the most important historical stages of this process and vivid testimony to the invincible force and vitality of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism.

Revolutionary practice has created favorable conditions for intensifying the struggle of the working masses for freedom, democracy, lasting peace and social progress. In this struggle the working people and the working class are making an increasingly resolute choice in favor of scientific socialism. The international communist and workers movement is rising to a new, higher level. And it is becoming clearer than ever today that no outstanding achievement by revolutionary forces is conceivable without their international cooperation and mutual support based on the principle of proletarian internationalism.

Proletarian internationalism is one of the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism. Its core is solidarity among the communists of all countries in the struggle for the common goals, support by them for the peoples' struggle for social progress and voluntary cooperation among the equal fraternal parties which organically combine national and international interests in their policy.

The tasks of further strengthening international solidarity within the ranks of the communist movement are acquiring particular importance nowadays. The point is that the internal conditions of the struggle for social progress have never before been so closely linked with the correlation of forces in the world arena, with the state of international relations, with the socialist community's foreign policy successes and with the international struggle of all detachments of the world anti-imperialist movement. [paragraph continues]

The further deepening of the contradictions of the capitalist system and the realization by the masses of the historical necessity of its replacement by socialism urgently demand the strengthening of the links between the national and international elements in the activity of the communist parties and the raising of each party's responsibility to its own people and working class and to the international progressive movement.

It is well known that the communist and workers parties have to operate under different conditions. They independently choose the paths of democratic transformations and of building a socialist society. The diversity of the situations under which they operate constantly prompts the fraternal parties to display revolutionary creativity. The fuller the consideration given to the general laws of the class struggle and socialist building and the revolutionary experience of the entire movement, the more fruitful this creative work is.

On the other hand, it is only as a result of joint action that the fraternal parties can insure the necessary international conditions for successful struggle against the class enemy in the prevailing situation. It must not be forgotten that the monopoly bourgeoisie is coordinating its economic and political activity increasingly widely and consistently on a world scale and its coordinated subversive actions against the communist movement are an important part of imperialism's global strategy.

In celebrating the 60th anniversary of Great October, the communists of various countries in the world stressed that they see the first country of real socialism and the creative activity of our party as an example of the consistent development and implementation of the revolutionary teaching. Each new generation of revolutionaries finds the universal experience of October, the first experience of building socialism, to be an inexhaustible source for profound comprehension of the laws and motive forces of revolutionary development. In international politics and the class struggle the Soviet Union, as the fraternal parties stress, plays the role of a powerful factor in insuring peace, repelling imperialist aggression and giving broad aid to national liberation movements and is the most reliable prop of the international working class in its struggle for the further development of democracy and socialist gains.

In its activity the CPSU invariably proceeds from the fundamental international interests of socialism and the entire revolutionary movement. The domestic and foreign policy of our party and its Central Committee and the activity of the Central Committee Politburo headed by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev aimed at consolidating the cause of peace and the freedom of the peoples represent a very important contribution to the common struggle of progressive forces.

The new USSR Constitution is vivid confirmation of the Soviet Union's loyalty to its international duty. Article 28 states that one of the goals of Soviet foreign policy is to strengthen the positions of world socialism and support for the peoples' struggle for national liberation and social progress. Judging by the response of communists from the capitalist countries, our new constitution is an invaluable help in their struggle for the working people's cause.

Proletarian internationalism is a powerful weapon in the hands of the international communist and workers movement. And it is not surprising that its further strengthening and development is today one of the most important sectors of the extremely acute ideological struggle between the workers movement and reactionary forces and opportunism. Monopoly capital's ideologists and politicians are persistently trying to push working people's political parties on to the path of abandoning the fundamental principles of Marxism-Leninism and the class bases of their domestic policy and to undermine the international unity of the working class. [paragraph continues]

With this aim anticommunist propaganda is making every effort to fabricate fairytales about the contradictions which supposedly exist between the independence of the communist parties and their fraternal alliance.

The events of 1977 provided a number of graphic examples in this respect. The communist movement witnessed attempts to use differences in the approaches of communist parties toward solving urgent problems with the aim of counterposing each party's independence and self-sufficiency to their comradely cooperation. It came up against an attempt by the class enemy to drive a wedge into the natural discussions between communist parties and to transform the differences into disagreements and disagreements into a split. Attempts are even being made to divide the international communist movement according to geographical zones in order to prompt particular parties to revise their principles and policy and abandon working people's international class solidarity. The ultimate aims of these attempts are at all costs to discredit real socialism in the eyes of millions, to limit the social consequences of the relaxation of tension and to distract working people's attention from their grievous position in the bourgeois countries.

Complaisance toward the intrigues of anticommunist propaganda is extremely fraught with negative consequences. It may lead a particular party to isolation from the world revolutionary process and from its chief bastion in the shape of the states of real socialism. Under certain conditions it may wreck such a party's ability to struggle effectively for social change. The attempts to defame the historical path of the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries and to ignore their experience may ultimately lead to the shattering of the belief of part of the people's masses in the socialist reorganization.

Some 18 months ago in Berlin 29 European communist and workers parties resolutely declared that they reject any policy and world outlook which essentially mean the subordination of the working class to the capitalist system. The commonality of the fraternal parties' views on the widest range of questions of the struggle for peace, the relaxation of tension and social progress forms a firm foundation for the further development and strengthening of communists' international unity of action. For proletarian internationalism is the best and most reliable guarantee of the independence of the communist parties of different countries and a most important condition for insuring their success in communists' joint struggle for peace and socialism.

PEOPLE'S DESIRE FOR PEACE INSPIRED BY SOCIALIST INITIATIVES

LD151600Y Moscow TASS in English 1535 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--TASS political commentator Yevgeniy Babenko writes:

The international conference for peace, security and cooperation in the Mediterranean became another vivid reaffirmation of how broad a response the multi-aspect peace initiatives of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries arouse in the world. The conference took place in Athens in mid-February.

Having said a resolute "no" to neutron weapons, the conference supported the proposal made by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, to agree to a mutual renunciation of the production of neutron weapons, and called for a further resolute action for practical steps in the area of disarmament, nuclear one, in the first place, and for consolidation of the international detente process.

Fraternal socialist countries do not limit themselves to making new peace initiatives. They insistently and persistently press for their wide discussion and implementation. This is illustrated, in particular, by the USSR's active and realistic stand at the talks on limiting strategic offensive arms.

The world public are increasingly aware that the elaboration of measures to curb the nuclear arm race effectively is the only sensible alternative to another stage of the nuclear arms race. A characteristic fact: A declaration which supports the proposal on banning all tests of nuclear devices was signed within a short period of time by 13,000 scientists and engineers in the USA. The American national centre to slash military spending called for demanding that the President and Congress accept the Soviet proposal on mutual renunciation of the neutron bomb production.

Such sentiments of the U.S. and other countries' public that launched a large-scale campaign of struggle for the strengthening of peace, against the arms race and for prohibition of neutron weapons obviously do not suit the Pentagon and NATO leaders. The cold war advocates resort to any subterfuges, to all kinds of insinuations and anti-Soviet slander in attempts to frustrate the detente consolidation process and secure the production of neutron weapons and cruise missiles and their deployment in the territory of Western Europe.

The bogy of the mythical "Soviet threat" still works at times in the hands of NATO propagandists. For example, the military budgets of the main countries of the West have been again considerably increased in the new year. Increasingly advanced types of weapons and military hardware are being adopted by NATO armies.

But, as admitted by cold war hawks themselves, the winds of our times do not fill their sails any longer. An important, positive international dialogue on matters of peace and disarmament has become considerably more active now. One cannot but agree with the opinion of progressive forces of the West, which note that this is a manifestation of a great effect of the socialist community's new peace initiatives.

SALES OF U.S. ARMS 'SERIOUS OBSTACLE' IN MIDEAST

LD151652Y Moscow TASS in English 1648 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 15, TASS--The U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, has announced that the United States decided to sell a big batch of military aircraft to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The total value of the aircraft that will be delivered to these countries amounts to 4,800 million dollars. This decision, as noted here, runs counter to the previous assurances of the U.S. administration that it is striving to limit the deliveries of American arms to countries situated in hot spots of the world.

According to the current decision, the biggest number of modern warplanes--ninety--will be received by Israel. The latter will get 15 fighter-bombers of the "F-15" type in addition to the earlier sold 25 such aircraft and 75 planes of the "F-16" type. Egypt will receive fifty aircraft and Saudi Arabia 60.

In his statement concerning this decision, Cyrus Vance claimed that arms deliveries to the three Middle Eastern states "would not upset the military balance in the area" and would allegedly promote the achievement of a just and lasting peace. Facts, however, testify to the opposite. The deal, announced by the U.S. secretary of state, strengthens considerably the military potential of Israel. It is not accidental that Cyrus Vance stated that Israel should be able to plan a continuous modernization of its airforce.

As to the decision to deliver arms to Egypt and Saudi Arabia, the Washington administration is thereby pursuing the purpose of creating the impression that it is ensuring the so-called "balance of forces" in this region, and of justifying in this way its massive arms deliveries to Tel Aviv. During the past six years the United States delivered 7,000 million dollars worth of arms to Israel.

The claim of the secretary of state that the arms deliveries to this region of the Middle East would allegedly promote the achievement of a just and lasting peace holds no water. This decision of the United States seriously aggravates the military situation in the region.

The decision of the United States to deliver substantial quantities of arms to the region where the state of war has not been ended and terms have not been worked out for an all-round peace settlement will make the situation even more explosive, fraught with a new armed conflict.

The deliveries of American arms to this region are being effected at the time when the negotiations on the settlement of the conflict on the basis of the known resolutions of the United Nations Security Council have practically been paralyzed. The United States has obstructed the political process of an all-round settlement and has backed the course of Israeli-Egyptian separatist deals, which, due to the capitulatory stand of As-Sadat, cannot bring about a lasting settlement and stable peace in this region. In this way, the United States is putting up one more serious obstacle to a settlement in the Middle East.

VANCE REMARKS ON ARMS FOR SOMALIA REPORTED

LD151924Y Moscow TASS in English 1821 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 15, TASS--While expounding the U.S. stand on American arms supplies to Somalia the U.S. secretary of state, Cyrus Vance, said in a CBS television interview: We do not believe that as long as Somali forces are in the Ogaden that we should supply arms to them. We have (?said that) as long as the situation remains as it is--namely, with Somali forces in there--we are going to adhere to our current policy.

'CONTRADICTIONS' REMAIN AFTER SCHMIDT-BLUMENTHAL TALKS

LD141600Y Moscow TASS in English 1515 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

["Without Tangible Results"--TASS headline]

[Text] Bonn, February 14, TASS--TASS correspondent Anatoliy Tyupayev reports:

Talks have been held here between the FRG chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, and the U.S. secretary of treasury, Michael Blumenthal. As officially announced, they were devoted to the discussion of "vital monetary-financial problems of the Western world." The subject of the negotiations is closely linked with the conference of finance ministers of five leading capitalist states, which took place in Paris at the end of last week.

Just as the meeting in the French capital, the American-West German negotiations proceeded in strict secrecy. No communique or official statement on their results have been published.

However, as noted by observers, the monetary and financial negotiations of Schmidt and Blumenthal were "most decisively influenced" by the contradictions between Bonn and Washington on the ways of overcoming the serious economic difficulties now experienced by the United States and its West European partners.

The acuteness of these contradictions is borne out by the recent negotiations conducted in Washington by the FRG minister of economics, Otto Lambsdorff. During these talks Bonn most resolutely rejected the demand of the United States for the artificial stimulation of internal demand in the FRG, motivating this refusal by the fact that such a policy might bring about a new, considerable growth of inflation.

The government and the industrial-financial circles of the FRG also expressed their dissatisfaction with the fact that in upholding the interests of their own monopolies. The United States resorts to such means as manipulations in the monetary markets.

Observers note that one more attempt had failed to settle the existing differences and determine ways to liquidate the grave crisis phenomena undertaken during the talks between Helmut Schmidt and Michael Blumenthal. Speaking to pressmen today, an official government spokesman stressed that the "differences in views between Bonn and Washington persist after yesterday's meeting, too".

U.S.-Europe 'Antagonism'

LD152104Y Moscow TASS in English 2033 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 15, TASS--TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Yegorov reports: The trip to Western Europe undertaken by the U.S. Treasury Secretary Michael Blumenthal, which is just over, has demonstrated further sharpening of economic and financial antagonisms between the United States and its West European partners.

The American press points out that at a secret meeting held by the finance ministers of five Western countries in Versailles Blumenthal has failed to talk his counterparts into believing that the United States is ready to take effective steps to support the dollar rate. The analysis of the state of the U.S. economy submitted by the American treasury secretary, which was unjustifiably optimistic, has also failed to produce a major impression. The meeting ended without any official communique and that at once triggered off an unfavourable reaction on the West European money markets, where the dollar again began to fall. Michael Blumenthal experienced an even more serious failure during his visit to Bonn. Reports by American correspondents indicate the West German chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, has refused flatly to meet the U.S. demands to stimulate his country's economy. The U.S. administration believes that if the FRG agreed to do so it would lead to greater West German imports from the United States. That would help improve the U.S. foreign trade balance. It is common knowledge that last year's U.S. foreign trade deficit reached a record sum of 31.4 thousand million dollars. The FRG Government, for its part, believes that such artificial stimulation will lead to greater inflation and worsen the country's economic position. The view of local observers is that the failure of the treasury secretary's trip makes it doubtful whether it will be possible to settle the numerous outstanding issues between the USA and the West European countries.

U.S. BUDGET DEBATE PROVOKES 'MILITARIST PROPAGANDA'

LD160833Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 7 Signed to Press 9 Feb 78 p 7 LD

[Vladimir Chervyakov article: "The Pentagon, Money and Anti-Soviet 'Canards'"]

[Text] "In order to wage war, you need three things," one adviser of French King Louis XII said, "money, money and more money." As America's New York TIMES writes, many people in the Pentagon in 1978 share the opinion of the man who gave this advice in 1499.

The United States has not carried out military operations abroad since the withdrawal of troops from Vietnam, but the Pentagonites' philosophy is not changing. It looks as though it is simply impossible to satisfy their appetites although military appropriations have increased from $73.7 billion in 1974 to $116.7 billion in 1978.

The draft federal budget for fiscal 1979--which begins 1 October--submitted by President J. Carter for Congress' consideration envisages another increase in military appropriations, and a fairly significant one: to $128.4 billion (while the budget leaves the subheads relating to job creation, the needs of the cities and others practically unchanged from last year). But the Pentagon is dissatisfied once again. Calling the budget submitted by the White House "meager" and "thrifty," U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown has published the military department's long-term plans: to raise appropriations for military purposes to $172.7 billion by 1983.

As though by command, as always happens when the discussion of the budget is beginning on Capitol Hill, militarist propaganda has developed in the U.S. bourgeois press. True, the "hawks'" arguments have not been notable for their novelty on this occasion either. In order to intimidate congressmen (for it is still in their power to curtail or increase military appropriations) and at the same time the ordinary American, the same hoary old bugbear of the "Soviet danger" is dusted off, the "U.S. lag behind the USSR" is painted in the darkest colors and so forth.

On 1 February the New York TIMES featured an account of a report "On the Soviet Air Force" prepared by the well known Brookings Institution. On reading it, the inhabitant of any West European country would be alarmed; it asserts that any day now the Soviet Air Force may deliver a "devastating air attack" and the NATO air force bases, nuclear weapons stockpiles and command and control centers may be smashed with one stroke. West Europe is depicted as "vulnerable" while NATO, which, according to West German data, has about 5 million soldiers, almost 19,000 tanks, about 8,000 aircraft and a tremendous quantity of other types of weapons including missiles, is made out to be as helpless as a baby.

The American press is repeating in every possible way the allegations about the "vulnerability of American land-based missile forces." As the Washington POST wrote 1 February, the authors of this theory believe that "Russia is capable today of destroying the American missile forces with one blow and holding hostage the United States military along with its civilian population in order to obtain important diplomatic concessions from Washington." Political commentators regard these ravings as a direct call to congressmen to increase appropriations for the development of the MX, the latest mobile missile.

Lately, in order to fuel the myth of the "Soviet threat," the bourgeois press has seized on the fabrications occasioned by the crash of the Cosmos-954 satellite. Reports have appeared that the satellite represented virtually a flying nuclear bomb and carried a unit to power a laser gun. In conversation with press representatives, CIA Director S. Turner did not fail to express concern at "the Soviet Union's actions in space." The Pentagon has urged the acceleration of a program aimed at "eliminating the Soviet lead in certain spheres of military space research."

The official statements of American officials, including military men, attest that all this is nothing more than another psychological attack by the champions of the arms race on the eve of the approval of the budget in the U.S. Congress. Even U.S. Defense Secretary H. Brown was forced to declare in a report, an account of which was published on 4 February: "In my view, approximate strategic nuclear equilibrium exists between the two powers at the present time. Neither country possesses any military advantage which makes it possible to utilize its nuclear potential to achieve political aims."

As far as the Soviet Union's position is concerned, it has been set forth with exhaustive clarity by L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. In his speech at the ceremony marking the 60th anniversary of Great October, he declared that the Soviet Union does not and will not seek military superiority over the other side. "We do not want," L.I. Brezhnev said, "to disrupt the approximate equilibrium of military strength which now prevails, for instance, between East and West in central Europe or between the USSR and the United States. [paragraph continues]

But in return we demand that no one else strive to disrupt it in his favor." And the recent specific Soviet proposals--namely that agreement be reached on the simultaneous ending of all states of nuclear weapon production, on banning nuclear weapon tests not only in the atmosphere, in space and under water but also underground, and on mutually renouncing production of the neutron bomb-conclusively attest that the Soviet Union follows this policy not only in words but also in deeds.

In that case just what is behind the latest bout of militarist hysteria on the part of the Pentagon generals and admirals?

It is primarily the U.S. military-industrial complex which is pinning its ambitious plans on the new spiral of the arms race for whose development the Pentagon is fighting so hard, since it hopes--not without reason--to make quite a packet if new nuclear missile weapons systems are deployed and the program for arms standardization in the NATO countries which is planned for the next few years is implemented.

Although 85 percent of American legislators, according to the CONGRESSIONAL QUARTERLY, still have large military enterprises in their districts, there is none of the old certainty that they will meekly meet all the Pentagon's demands. Opposition to the uncontrolled arms race is growing with every passing day in the United States. In the first days of February the announcement was made in Washington of the creation of a broad coalition incorporating about 40 social, labor union, religious and women's organizations with the main aim of reducing military expenditures and channeling the funds released into remedies for urgent domestic problems. Such sentiments are also being reflected in Congress. Representative P. Mitchell has stated that an amendment envisaging a $10 billion to $12 billion reduction in the Pentagon budget for the next fiscal year will be submitted to Congress.

So now the military concerns have begun to worry: What if some of the multibillion dollar profits which they obtain from the Pentagon's orders every year are spent on meeting the vital social needs of those from whom these billions are extorted--the ordinary Americans? The myth of the increasing "Soviet threat" was dredged up with the aim of preventing this.

CARTER ADMINISTRATION'S PROMISES ON UNEMPLOYED UNFULFILLED

LD151557Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[V. Mkrtchyan commentary: "New Priorities, Old Maladies"]

[Text] As distinct from last year, when priority in the U.S. administration's domestic policy was given to solving the energy problem, this year has been declared the "year of the economy." This does not mean that the energy crisis has been surmounted, but, according to the Washington administration's new domestic policy strategy, the chief effort will be directed toward the struggle against unemployment and inflation.

These are the general features of the U.S. administration's plans set out in traditional documents--the President's State of the Union Address to Congress, the economic message and the draft new budget.

However much the compilers of the traditional messages tried to present the fruits of official Washington's activity last year in the most favorable light, they failed to hide facts that attest that the administration has not fulfilled its alluring promises to reduce unemployment, curb inflation, improve the environment and alleviate the crisis of the cities, racial friction and crime. This is evidently why promises for the future are of a more restrained nature, although here too they have not managed without trying to inject into the programs a good amount of propaganda optimism.

Like the previous Republican administration, the present Democratic administration is trying to restore economic activity, which was substantially undermined by the very acute and protracted economic crisis of the mid-seventies. However, an analysis of the programs elaborated by President J. Carter's administration to stimulate the economy this year has not elicited a surge of optimism even from the bourgeois press. They gamble on changes in tax policy, which, in the opinion of BUSINESS WEEK, the business circles' journal, may lead to "an escalation of inflation and great trouble in the stock exchange."

The record expediture on military purposes provided for in the draft budget ($128.4 billion) has given Congressman J. Conyers grounds for describing it as a "militarist budget" and as "a budget which shows that the administration does not intend really to set about resolving the problems of the unemployed, the poor and needy working people."

In the United States, according to the U.S. press, there currently already approximately 13 million unemployed, but it is precisely they who, in point of fact, have been overlooked by the U.S. policymakers.

As we can see, basic human rights--above all, the right to work--still occupy the last place on the U.S. ruling circles' list of priorities, if we judge not by declarations but by real deeds.

SOVIET DEPUTY HEALTH MINISTER RECEIVED IN WASHINGTON

LD152030Y Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 15, TASS--Peter Born, special assistant to the president for health issues, has received academician Yevgeniy Chazov, deputy minister of public health of the USSR, now on a visit here.

On behalf of the President of the United States Peter Born favourably assessed Soviet-American cooperation in medicine and declared for its further development.

Yevgeniy Chazov has stressed in the conversation that the Soviet Union stands for continuation and development of the intergovernmental agreement, including concerning the expediency of continuation of join work in the artificial heart problem. He expressed satisfaction with the favourable development of Soviet-American cooperation as a whole on the sphere of medicine and expressed readiness of promote its further development.

CHINA

EXECUTION OF THREE SZECHWAN PROVINCIAL LEADERS REPORTED

OW160501Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1400 GMT 15 Feb 78 OW

[Text] A few days ago three unidentified local leaders were sentenced in Chengtu, capital of Szechwan Province. The Chengtu radio station admitted that the three were executed for political reasons. They were accused of collaborating with the gang of four, who were persecuted in 1976. Commenting on the report, foreign observers point out: Szechwan, the most densely populated province, has caused the Peking regime much trouble. Although the provincial leadership has almost completely changed hands, the situation in Szechwan remains very unstable. This is evident from the reports of executions in the province.

PEKING 'WORKS HAND IN GLOVE' WITH S. AFRICA, RHODESIA

OW160851Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 1100 GMT 15 Feb 78 OW

[Glebov commentary]

[Excerpts] In May of last year, the Chinese representative to the U.N. Security Council stated that China supports the African people in their struggle against racism and racial segregation. He said: The Chinese delegation once again solemnly declares that the Chinese Government has not, and will never enter into any direct or indirect political, economic, trade or other contacts with the South African racist regime. Before this, Peking issued similar statements and pledges which are worthless. This is one of the salient features of the policy being pursued by the Peking leaders that their words do not match their deeds. Aware of the fact that the people of Africa and other countries have a deep hatred for racism, Peking's leaders resorted to tricks in dealing with the question of the struggle against racism, but their trick of calling themselves the best friends of the African people can only deceive people for a short time. Now, many people realize that the purpose behind Peking's tireless propaganda about China's support for the African people's struggle and China's denunciation of racism was to cover up the shameless dealings between the ruling clique in Peking and the racist regimes of the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia.

An article by the political observer of the Lebanese paper PEOPLE [as heard], which was printed on 11 February 1970, said: Peking's primary concern is that its extensive trade with the Smith and Vorster racist regimes nets maximum profits. The fact that the native Africans in the Republic of South Africa and Rhodesia have no rights whatsoever and are subject to oppression has in no way prevented Peking from cooperating with the ruling cliques of these two countries. The article further pointed out that China has purchased about 20 percent of Rhodesia's annual chrome ore output along with large quantities of copper, nickel and other items. The trade representatives of the Smith racist regime and its industrial corporations have frequented Peking and visited exhibitions and export commodity fairs held in Canton.

In a statement made at a parliamentary session last April, the South African minister of Bantu development and administration, Connie P. Mulder, openly declared that the Republic of South Africa was seeking both economic aid and political support from Peking. He stopped short of saying that the ties between the South African racists and Peking's ruling clique were based on anti-Sovietism.

The general public knows that Peking should reveal that its ruling clique supports the racists in South Africa economically, politically and militarily. Working hand in glove, Peking and the South African racists were partners in the scheme to obliterate the Republic of Angola. Peking also joined the Rhodesian racists in openly suppressing the uprising of the people of Shaba Province against imperialist rule.

INCREASE IN SOVIET-POLISH TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION SEEN

LD151228Y Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The development of friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and Poland accords with the interests of the peoples of the two countries and the entire socialist community, Nikolay Baybakov, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers, chairman of the State Planning Committee of the USSR, said in his interview published in today's issue of the EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA weekly.

In between 1976 and 1980 trade turnover between the USSR and Poland will reach about 30 billion roubles, an increase of 80 percent over the previous five-year period.

The Soviet Union is Poland's main trade partner, accounting for about 30 percent of its foreign trade turnover. In turn, among socialist countries Poland is second only to the GDR in volume of trade with the USSR, the interview says.

The Soviet Union and Poland have started drafting a long-term program of specialising and cooperation production in a number of industries, Nikolay Baybakov said. This is a new stage in the development of integration. It is characterized not only by the planning of specialisation and cooperation in machine-building, ferrous metallurgy, the chemical and several other industries till the year 1990, but also by deeper content of cooperation ties. In particular, they include the possibility of forming joint design organizations, research facilities, design bureaus and productions with the aim of pooling resources and means.

Problems of long-term cooperation in engineering have been defined, the interview says. This refers, in particular, first of all to the production on the basis of cooperation of equipment for atomic power plants, big dump trucks, metallurgical, chemical and mining equipment, and the launching of the joint production of trunk electric locomotives.

At present, CMEA countries are drawing up long-term special programs of cooperation in key branches of industry for periods of 10-15 years. Along with other CMEA member-countries, the Soviet Union and Poland are actively participating in the drafting of these programs directed at satisfying through joint efforts rational requirements in fuel, raw materials and initial products, at deepening specialisation and cooperation of production in engineering, at expanding cooperation in agriculture and the food industry, in the production and exchange of manufactured consumer goods, and at accelerating the development of transport, the interview says.

The participation of the USSR and Poland in the elaboration and implementation of these programs will result in an expansion and deepening of their mutually beneficial all-round cooperation, in a growth of the economic might of all countries of the socialist community and increased mutual supplementing of their economies, Nikolay Baybakov noted.

11TH LCY CONGRESS THESES SHOW ECONOMIC, SOCIAL STRATEGY

LD151025Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[TASS report: "Theses for the 11th LCY Congress"]

[Text] Belgrade, 12 February--A plenum of the Central Committee of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] has examined and approved the "basic theses for the preparation of the 11th LCY Congress documents."

The theses, which are being submitted for discussion by Yugoslavia's communists and public, summarize the development of the party and country since the 10th LCY Congress, analyze the problems confronting the Communists and all the Yugoslav people, and outline the LCY's tasks for the future.

The theses cite specific figures which characterize the growth of industrial and agricultural production, employment and the enhancement of the living standard of the working people. The considerable achievements in stabilizing the economy and reducing inflation are affirmed. All this has had a positive effect on socioeconomic development and on the stability of the society as a whole.

At the same time the document notes a number of problems and shortcomings in the development of the economy such as the growth of production costs, prices and the cost of living, the deficit in the country's foreign trade balance and balance of payments, and the slow growth of labor productivity.

Among the important political and socioeconomic tasks confronting the LCY and Yugoslavia, the solution of job placement problems, especially among young people who have finished training at educational establishments, and the solution of a number of other social problems.

The LCY bears full responsibility with other political organizations for the socialist nature of the decisions in the system of socialist democracy based on self-management, the theses state. The LCY must constantly improve its class social composition and develop the forms and methods of activity which insure successful implementation of its vanguard role in society.

The considerable successes in ideological work, especially in Marxist education, are noted. The LCY, the document states, resolutely opposes abuse of creative freedom in culture and science, and opposes attempts to transform this freedom into a political weapon against socialism and use it for the dissemination of reactionary ideas. It is particularly important, the theses stress, that the LCY wage a constant ideological and political struggle against all forms of nationalism and chauvinism, which frequently use the cultural sphere for antisocialist activity.

The foreign policy section of the document emphasizes that profound revolutionary transformations are characteristic of the contemporary world and are an integral part of the transition from capitalism to socialism. The achievements of socialism and the progressive processes in individual countries and regions are exerting an increasing influence on development in other parts of the world.

One of the most significant achievements of the policy of relaxing tension was the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The LCY and Yugoslavia, the theses state, propose that detente should become an all-encompassing process, extend to all regions of the world and encompass the solution of all current major problems. The LCY and Yugoslavia actively advocate the immediate end to the arms race and disarmament.

The LCY will continue to develop internationalist solidarity and give support to actions aimed at strengthening peace, independence, equal cooperation, social progress and socialism in the world and at combating imperialism, neocolonialism and any forms of domination, the theses state in conclusion.

SFRY SPOKESMAN PROTESTS ANTI-YUGOSLAV SWEDISH TV PROGRAM

LD151442Y Moscow TASS in English 1418 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Belgrade, February 15, TASS--M. Kalezic, a spokesman of the Federal Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, voiced at a press conference here serious concern in connection with anti-Yugoslav activities in Sweden. He said they could have unfavourable consequences for the development of relations between the two countries. Shown on Swedish television was a film that can be regarded as an act of support for terrorism directed against Yugoslavia and of other forms of anti-Yugoslav activities. Immediately after the showing of the film Swedish authorities arrested two Yugoslav citizens and declared a staff member of the Yugoslav Embassy in Stockholm as a persona non grata.

It is obvious that certain circles in Sweden want to spoil relations between the two countries, M. Kalezic stressed. Responsibility for this rests fully with the Swedish side. Yugoslavia is interested in the preservation of good relations and in the development of cooperation with Sweden. That is why on lodging a protest against the abovementioned actions, Yugoslavia expects that the Swedish Government will adopt the appropriate measures.

MASHEROV AWARDED BULGARIAN ORDER OF GEORGI DIMITROV

LD151625Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 78 morning edition p 1 LD

[TASS report: "High Award"]

[Text] Sofia, 13 February--By a decree of the Bulgarian State Council P.M. Masherov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Belorussian CP Central Committee, has been awarded the Order of Georgi Dimitrov.

This high award has been conferred on him for great services in developing Soviet-Bulgarian friendship and cooperation between the Belorussian SSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria and also in connection with his 60th birthday.

USSR SIGNS BROADCASTING PACTS WITH EAST EUROPEANS

GDR, CSSR

LD141121Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Feb 78 morning edition p 3 LD

[Text] TASS--A working protocol on cooperation in television broadcasting was signed in Moscow on 8 February between the USSR State Committee for Television and Radio Broadcasting [GOSTELRADIO] and the GDR Council of Ministers State Committee for television.

On the same day working protocols on cooperation for the period 1978-79 in television and radio broadcasting were signed between the USSR GOSTELRADIO and Czechoslovak television and Czechoslovak Radio.

The protocols were signed by S.G. Lapin, chairman of the USSR GOSTELRADIO; H. Adameck, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers State Committee for Television; J. Zelenka, director general of Czechoslovak Television; and J. Risko, director general of Czechoslovak Radio.

Hungary, Poland

LD141123Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Feb 78 morning edition p 4 LD

[Text] TASS--Agreements and working protocols in radio broadcasting for the period 1978-79 were signed in Moscow on 9 February between the GOSTELRADIO and Hungarian Radio; USSR GOSTELRADIO and the GDR Council of Ministers State Committee for Radio; and USSR GOSTELRADIO and the Polish Committee for Radio and Television Affairs.

The agreements and protocols were signed by S.G. Lapin, chairman of USSR GOSTELRADIO; I. Hars, president of Hungarian Radio; R. Singer, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers State Committee for Radio; and M. Szczepanski, chairman of the Polish Committee for Radio and Television Affairs.

Bulgaria

LD141125Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 78 morning edition p 3 LD

[Text] TASS--Agreements and working protocols on cooperation in television and radio broadcasting for the period 1978-79 have been signed in Moscow between the GOSTELRADIO and Bulgarian Television and Bulgarian Radio. The agreements and protocols were signed by S.G. Lapin, chairman of USSR GOSTELRADIO; I. Slavkov, director general of Bulgarian Television; and B. Traykov, director general of Bulgarian Radio.

BRIEFS

NEW POLISH AMBASSADOR--Moscow, February 14, TASS--Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Polish People's Republic to the USSR Kazimierz Olszewski arrived in Moscow today. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1156 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD]

LIQUID AMMONIA FOR U.S.--Moscow, February 14 TASS--The British gas tanker Clark Maxwell put in at Ventspils (Soviet Baltic port) today to be loaded with liquid ammonia which the USSR is supplying to the USA on a compensation basis. A plant to carry and process chemical products has been opened in this Latvian port. Taking part in its constructions are the American Occidental Petroleum and several West German firms. Soviet gas-carrying tankers have already made three trips to America. This year they will carry about 400,000 tons of liquified ammonia and next year about a million tons. The figures are fixed in the long-term compensation deals signed by the Soviet Union with American, Italian, French, West German and Japanese firms. An even bigger plant is being built on the Black Sea. Raw materials will be brought to it by a giant ammonia pipeline from the city of Togliatti on the Volga. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1655 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD]

ROMANIAN FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT--Bucharest--A protocol on cooperation between the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society and the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Association (ARLUS) for 1978 was signed here today. The document envisions a further expansion of relations between the friendship associations of the two fraternal countries. [Text] [Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1615 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD]

CANADIAN CP ON UNDERLYING CAUSES OF DIPLOMATS' EXPULSION

LD151916Y Moscow TASS in English 1908 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

["Canadian Communist Party Statement"--TASS Headline]

[Text] Ottawa, February 15, TASS--The Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Canada has issued a statement which, among other things, says that the Canadians should ask themselves what lies behind the expulsion of a number of Soviet diplomats.

The statement says there is every sign to create the impression that the action is being used to try and divert political attention on the eve of federal elections and to whitewash the Canadian federal police and their illegal actions which are widely condemned in the country.

Moreover, one can hardly consider a mere coincidence the fact that this issue is coming up at the very moment when Parliament is considering a bill to legalise unlawful activities permitting the federal police to open mail. The statement says it makes you wonder whether it does not mean an attempt to push Parliament into passing an extremely undemocratic bill.

It makes you wonder whether this is not an attempt to make the Canadians forget that the federal police have been planting and evidently continue to plant their agents in the population and the national movement in French-speaking Canada.

The statement says the Candians asking themselves these questions should remember the danger stemming from the attempts by the supporters of the cold war, the military-industrial complex and other enemies of the relaxation of tension in the United States and Canada to disrupt good neighbourly relations and mutually-advantageous trade links between Canada and the Soviet Union. These good neighbourly relations are vital for a still firmer orientation to the principles of peaceful coexistence between our two countries.

AUSTRALIAN REJECTED AS HEAD OF BERLIN MILITARY MISSION

LD151920Y Hamburg DPA in German 1824 GMT 15 Feb LD

[Text] Berlin--The USSR has made a move against the status of the Western military missions in Berlin. Informed quarters in West Berlin confirmed today that Soviet Ambassador in East Berlin Petr A. Abrasimov has described as illegal the appointment of the Australian ambassador in Bonn, Max A. Loveday, to be simultaneously head of Australia's military mission in Berlin. Abrasimov rejected the photostatic copy of the credentials sent to him by the Western powers.

In West Berlin this attitude is viewed in context of various Soviet attacks on the status of Berlin as a whole.

CRITICAL FRG PRESS SOURCES CITED ON BONN BUGGING AFFAIR

LD151459Y Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Correspondent O. Nikiforov Dispatch: "The Bonn Carousel"]

[Text] Bonn--There is a saying, "much ado about nothing." This time, however, the saying is not justified. The traditional carnival which has been gathering strength in the streets of the Rhine cities muffled and for a few days ousted from the newspaper pages the latest bugging affair which led to the resignation of Federal Defense Minister G. Leber. He did not leave alone. [paragraph continues]

The cabinet reshuffle which followed affected the not unimportant posts of the ministers of finance, technology, economic development, construction, education and science.

The ministerial carousel which turned literally in a matter of hours aroused surprise even in the worldly wise politicians of the Christian Democratic Union and the Christian Social Union who intended to inflate Leber's resignation and the cabinet reshuffle to the scale of a government crisis.

"The defense minister," the FRG press notes, "was forced to resign in order to save the face of the coalition in light of the unprecedented scandal as a result of which it became clear that the practice of unconstitutional investigation has become an everyday phenomenon in the FRG." The press reported approximately 20 cases of illegal bugging without court sanctions, of which the victims were not only representatives of the democratic society but also high-up civil servants in the Defense Ministry and even a few politicians. It is worth noting that a bugging device was discovered 200 meters from the office of Leber himself. Military counterintelligence--the "younger sister" of the Bonn secret services--was the organizer of this comprehensive investigation.

In this context the progressive newspaper DIE TAT notes, "...Last spring the Internal Affairs minister assured the voters that the break-in at the flat of the atomic physicist K. Traube and the installation there of bugging devices was the only exception. Meanwhile it is clear that not only scientists but also politicians, journalists and generals are bugged.

"The government rejected open public discussion of what has happened," DIE TAT stresses further on. "This means," the newspaper concludes, "that military counter intelligence is carrying out its unconstitutional acts as before."

KREISKY DENOUNCES FRG COUNTERINTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES

ID151408Y Moscow TASS in English 1335 GMT 15 Feb 78 ID

[Text] Vienna, February 15, TASS--Chancellor Bruno Kreisky has denounced the activities of the West German military counterespionage service (MAD) on Austria's territory. Speaking to journalists here, he said that such actions cannot be tolerated. They exceed the limits of a usual incident. It is intolerable, he said, that such services of the FRG operate in Austria. This means violation of sovereignty of the country. Such actions cannot be over-simplified, since they disregard laws of another state, of Austria in this case, and can have serious and far-reaching consequences.

Minister of the Interior Erwin Lanc told press representatives that the independent state cannot tolerate espionage actions on its territory.

The designs of the West German military counterespionage service are only the top of an iceberg, the newspaper DIE PRESSE points out. In Austria, MAD was engaged in illegal operations which are a violation of the sovereignty of the country.

In the opinion of the newspaper ARBEITER ZEITUNG, it is insufficient to have assurances of the FRG Government that such cases would not recur. Austria has full right to know what MAD's agents really did on its territory. We cannot tolerate that West German counter-espionage service operates in our country with impunity, the newspaper writes.

AUSTRIAN CP MEMBER WRITES ON RELATIONS WITH CPSU

LD150824Y Moscow TASS in English 0811 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--When the Communist Party of Austria only came into being sixty years ago bourgeois propaganda often labelled us as "a hand of Moscow", member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria Johann Steiner writes in PRAVDA. This false thesis can be encountered sometimes even today and not only in bourgeois press but also in the press of socialists.

Today, just as sixty years ago, we reply to such statements that Austrian communists have always come out for the national interests of Austria and its working people.

Throughout the past sixty years relations between the Communist Party of Austria and the CPSU have been truly fraternal, comradely relations. Contrary to what is alleged sometimes, never throughout this period did the CPSU try even once to impose on the Austrian party any positions or points of view of its own.

As is known, the Chinese leaders assert the opposite, the author stresses, but it is under the pretext of such false statements that they have tried and continue trying to interfere in the internal affairs of the CPSU and other parties. In these cases false accusations against the CPSU serve as camouflage for Chinese encroachments on the rights of other parties.

Castigates Anti-Sovietism

LD150938Y Moscow TASS in English 0902 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

["Anti-Sovietism--An Instrument of Reaction"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--Austria regained independence and became a neutral state owing to the Soviet Union's victory over Hitler's fascism and to the USSR's just policy, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria Johann Steiner writes in PRAVDA. Insinuations about and slander against the USSR's policy in respect of Austria, that are often circulated both in Austria and in other West European countries, are groundless. The former Austrian Foreign Minister Gruber confirmed recently in his memoirs the Soviet Union's constructive and positive role. Gruber writes that the Soviet Union pressed for Austria to become a sovereign, peaceful, neutral state and made the decisive contribution to the drafting of the State Treaty of 1955.

At present, when the entire Western world is experiencing a grave economic crisis, the development of political and economic relations with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries is extremely beneficial for Austria, saves many tens of thousands of Austrian workers from unemployment.

The lessons of our history, just as present-day events, the author stresses, convincingly demonstrate to all Austrian communists the importance of defence of socialism, of struggle against anti-communism and its specific forms, first of all anti-Sovietism. As is known, waverings originated in our party precisely on this question in the recent past, and a rightwing revisionist group in the party attempted to lead the Communist Party of Austria along the nationalistic, opportunistic road.

But being inspired by the theory and practice of Marxism-Leninism, by ideas of proletarian internationalism, Austrian communists found the strength in themselves to overcome that right-wing danger. We can state now that today our party firmly stands on Marxist-Leninist, internationalist positions.

"All the major events in the world in the post-war period have happened as a result and under the influence of the changes in the alignment of forces in favour of socialism and peace", Johann Steiner writes in PRAVDA. "Hence the obvious conclusion: If we want the changes in favour of peace and socialism, changes that are beneficial for the peoples to continue, we must support socialism and facilitate its consolidation and development."

Contests Eurocommunism

LD151006Y Moscow TASS in English 0832 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The main thing is internationalist solidarity, strengthening of the unity and cohesion of the communist movement, Johann Steiner, member of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria writes in PRAVDA. We have become convinced that consideration for the national specificities of a party's position by no means impedes internationalist unity and cooperation.

All this prompted our party to voice at its congress its disagreement with the concept of "Eurocommunism." It was demonstrated in the report by the chairman of the Communist Party of Austria Franz Muhri that the slogan of "Eurocommunism" was invented actually by anticommunist forces. Their aim was to engineer differences between communist parties in Western Europe, on the one hand, and communist parties in socialist countries, first of all the CPSU, on the other hand, and also between the West European communist parties themselves.

As is known, the term "Eurocommunism" also has another interpretation. When it is used by communists they have in mind a certain community, a similarity of the specificities of struggle for socialism in a number of West European countries. Such a similarity certainly exists, since nearly all West European countries belong to the type of developed capitalist countries.

Johann Steiner believes that one cannot agree however with attempts to range notions about future socialism in Western Europe against the one actually existing in socialist countries. Whatever the distinctions of the struggle for socialism in Western Europe from the struggle that was conducted in Eastern Europe both comprise a part of the common historical road of the peoples to socialism. So the point in question, as we believe, is not to counterpose but to creatively compare, to mutually enrich each other.

No doubt about it, in the struggle for socialism account must be taken of national conditions and principles applied creatively. That is self-evident. But, despite all this, the road to socialism, just as socialism itself, possess certain common features, common laws, which manifest themselves in all instances and in all countries and which determine the socialist nature of a revolution, the character of the working-class movement in a country.

ADDITIONS TO REPORT ON 7 FEB KOSYGIN, KREISKY MEETING

The following additions to the item entitled "Austrian Chancellor Kreisky Continues Official Visit" and subtitled "Details of Kosygin Meeting" published in the 8 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page E 1, were taken from PRAVDA of 8 February, page 1.

The PRAVDA version adds the following passage after the last paragraph:

On 7 February, a conversation took place between A.N. Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and B. Kreisky, federal chancellor of the Austrian Republic, during which the examination of questions of Soviet-Austrian relations and the present international situation was continued.

The conversation was of a constructive nature and passed in an atmosphere of mutual understanding.

The federal chancellor laid a wreath at the tomb of the unknown soldier by the Kremlin wall.

MINISTRY FOR RELATIONS WITH COMMON MARKET SET UP IN SPAIN

LD151607Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[L. Kamynin Dispatch: "Seeking Concessions"]

[Text] Madrid--Madrid has announced the creation of a ministry for relations with the EC.

It is headed by Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, former minister of public works and a prominent figure in the ruling party--the Union of the Democratic Center.

The Spanish administration, the newspaper EL PAIS points out editorially, thereby confirms its desire to secure the country's admission to the Common Market. At the same time Lorenzo Natali, deputy chairman of the EC European Communities Commission, has arrived in Madrid on an official visit.

The high-ranking Common Market representative has announced that his commission will draw its final conclusion on the question of Spain's admission to the EC no earlier than the beginning of 1979.

Last summer the Spanish Government asked for talks to be begun on the country's joining the EC. This is being prevented, however, by certain members of the "nine"--above all, France and Italy, which see Spain as a dangerous rival in the agricultural produce market. There is also evidence of an attempt to pressure Spain, from which they are trying to secure concessions which will hurt its economic interests, before admitting it to the Common Market.

UK AMBASSADOR SIR HOWARD SMITH DEPARTS USSR

LD152012Y Moscow TASS in English 2002 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Great Britain Sir Howard Smith today left Moscow.

GROMYKO CONGRATULATES SWISS OFFICIAL ON APPOINTMENT

LD081644Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1427 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow--USSR Foreign Affairs Minister Andrey Gromyko today sent a telegram to Pierre Aubert, head of the Swiss Federal Political Department, in which he passed on congratulations and good wishes in connection with him taking up this post. Pierre Aubert expressed gratitude for the congratulations.

EEC REFUSES TO APPLY SANCTIONS AGAINST S. AFRICA

LD151500Y Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Copenhagen, February 15, TASS--The Common Market countries have refused to apply economic sanctions against the racist regime of the Republic of South Africa. Speaking at a session of the Ministerial Council of European Communities held here, British Foreign Secretary David Owen has said that the time for such sanctions has not come yet.

The British foreign secretary's stand is easy to explain. Denouncing in word the apartheid system, his country maintains the closest trade and economic ties with South Africa. The firms, which have their subsidiaries in the Republic of South Africa, include such giants of the British economy as Lonrho, British Leyland, Imperial Chemical Industries, Dunlop. The total number of subsidiaries of British companies in the Republic of South Africa reaches 6,000.

West German and French monopolies play no lesser role in strengthening the economic foundation of the apartheid system. More than 300 big concerns of the FRG, about 100 French corporations have their subsidiaries in the country of the Vorster regime, according to Western press reports.

The total capital investments of the EEC countries in South Africa reaches 10,000 million rands--about 60 per cent of all foreign investments into South African economy. The Vorster regime would have been doomed without these investments.

Meanwhile, the Common Market stubbornly refuses to take effective measures against the racist regime. The latest example is the recent session of the Ministerial Council of European Communities in Copenhagen. The stand of the participants in the session is undoubtedly determined by the fact that such sanctions would not be to the liking of Western monopoly circles, rendering extensive economic and financial aid to the racists. These circles try, cost what it may, to preserve a possibility of continuing exploitation of huge natural wealth and cheap labour force in South Africa.

BRIEFS

CULTURAL COOPERATION WITH NETHERLANDS--Moscow, February 2, TASS--Cooperation between the USSR-Netherlands and the Netherlands-USSR societies will largely broaden this year in accordance with a plan adopted in Moscow today. Plans to exchange delegations, exhibitions and guest performances of artists have been developed. Our work proceeds in accordance with a long-term plan of cooperation, a TASS correspondent has been told by Mikhail Botvinnik, president of the "USSR-Netherlands" Society and ex-world chess champion. Popular Soviet ensembles "Tripolye" and "Berezka" visited the Netherlands in 1977. "A Week of the Soviet Union" was held in Zaandam. We invariably send to the "Netherlands-USSR" Society photo exhibitions and information materials. Our cooperation helps strengthen the friendly ties between the peoples of the USSR and the Netherlands, Botvinnik said. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1644 GMT 2 Feb 78 LD]

LIBYA'S JALLUD CONTINUES USSR VISIT, MEETS SOVIET LEADERS

Talks With Brezhnev

LD151202Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Leonid Ilich Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received in the Kremlin today Maj 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, who is on an official visit to the Soviet Union.

During the meeting, views were exchanged on the questions of the further development and strengthening of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Libya and also on some topical international problems.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud expressed satisfaction with the strengthening of cooperation between the Soviet Union and Libya and stressed the resoluteness of both sides to deepen and develop Soviet-Libyan relations in all spheres.

In discussing international issues, special attention was paid to the situation in the Near East. It was noted that the separate talks of the Egyptian leadership with Israel are seriously damaging the interests of the Arab peoples in their struggle to liquidate the consequences of the Israeli aggression and are hindering the establishment of a lasting and just peace in the Near East. In this connection, Jallud informed Leonid Ilich Brezhnev about the decision of the recent meeting in Algiers of the leaders of Libya and a number of other Arab countries and the Palestinian Liberation Organization which worked out, as an extension to the decision of the Tripoli meeting, concrete measures to counteract the capitulatory course of the Egyptian leadership and unify the ranks of the progressive Arab states.

Both sides stressed the importance of consolidating the progressive forces of the Arab world and further strengthening their interaction with their natural allies--the USSR and other countries of the socialist community--in the anti-imperialist struggle.

In discussing the situation in the Horn of Africa, Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud stated that the continuation of the armed conflict in this area serves the interests of the forces of imperialism and reaction. They expressed the conviction that a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia would contribute to the cause of free and independent development of all states of the Horn of Africa on the basis of noninterference in each other's internal affairs and mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Leonid Ilich Brezhnev and 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud stated with satisfaction that the high-level Societ-Libyan meetings and contacts are becoming a good tradition of Soviet-Libyan relations and are contributing to the fruitful development of friendship and all-round cooperation between the Soviet Union and the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

The meeting was conducted in a warm and cordial atmosphere. Present at the meeting was Samoteykin, aide to the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

Kosygin-Jallud Discussions

LD151720Y Moscow TASS in English 1710 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The Soviet-Libyan talks opened today in the Kremlin.

During the talks held in the friendly atmosphere and in the spirit of mutual understanding there was an exchange of opinions on questions of Soviet-Libyan cooperation in different spheres. It was pointed out that in view of the common stand in the anti-imperialist struggle and due to the widening contacts between representatives of the Soviet Union and Libya at all levels, Soviet-Libyan relations are developing in a favourable direction. The sides are unanimous in assessing further prospects of Soviet-Libyan cooperation.

There was also an exchange of opinions on a number of topical international problems.

The talks will continue.

The talks are conducted by member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers Aleksey Kosygin, and member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud. [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1700 GMT on 15 February notes that Arkhipov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and others, and At-Talhi, Libyan secretary for industry, and others also participated.]

Visits Lenin Mausoleum

LD151336 Moscow TASS in English 1242 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--Member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of Libya 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud today visited the Lenin mausoleum and laid a wreath there, a wreath was also laid to the unknown soldier's tomb at the Kremlin wall.

Libyan Press Hails Visit

LD151942Y Moscow TASS in English 1737 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, February 15, TASS--Libya's radio and television reported the reception by general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Leonid Brezhnev in the Kremlin of member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah Major 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud now on an official visit to the Soviet Union, as the most important event of the day,

Reports stress that Leonid Brezhnev and 'Abd as-Salam Ahmad Jallud expressed satisfaction with the strengthening cooperation between the USSR and Libya, stated the determination of the two countries to deepen and broaden Soviet-Libyan relations in all spheres.

Both sides emphasized the importance of consolidating of the progressive forces of the Arab world and further strengthening of their cooperation with their natural allies in the anti-imperialist struggle--the USSR and other countries of the socialist community, JANA stresses.

The newspaper AL-FAJR AL-JADID writes that the Soviet Union holds a consistent stand in questions of a Middle East settlement, it gives invariable support to the progressive Arab countries, coming out for the establishment of a united anti-imperialist front in the Middle East, against attempts of the United States and Arab reaction to impose upon Arab peoples the so-called settlement on the Middle East conflict at the expense of the basic national interests of the Palestinians. Consolidation of friendship between Arab countries and the USSR, the newspaper stresses, serves the aims of further development of the national-liberation movement in the Middle East, promotes the success of the struggle waged by the progressive Arab countries against domination of imperialist monopolies, for a just peace and progress.

The Libyan press expresses confidence that the negotiations in Moscow will be a major contribution to consolidation of both bilateral Libyan-Soviet cooperation and Arab-Soviet friendship as a whole.

KING HUSAYN REITERATES STAND ON MIDEAST SETTLEMENT

LD141640Y Moscow TASS in English 1629 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Amman, February 14, TASS--King Kusayn of Jordan has reiterated his country's stand on the Middle East settlement. Speaking in a military unit he said that Jordan would not compromise with Israel at the expense of Arab territories. Jordan, he said, would not give up an inch of the land and stands committed to the defence of Arab rights and interests.

AS-SADAT TOUR OF U.S., EUROPE ENDS WITHOUT RESULTS

LD150642Y Moscow TASS in English 0610 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The Egyptian president's tour practically ended without result, Aleksey Vasiliyev writes in PRAVDA in a comment on As-Sadat's tour of Morocco, the USA, and a number of European countries. The head of the Egyptian state brought home trunkloads of insignificant assurances, statements, declarations and speeches.

Egypt failed to secure in the USA either the deliveries of American weapons or Washington's "pressure" on Israel. The USA remains Israel's main ally and gives it military, economic and other support which backs up the aggressive, expansionist aspirations.

U.S. Priorities Favor Israel

LD151746Y Moscow TASS in English 1728 GMT 15 Feb 73 LD

["Impasses of Separatist Diplomacy"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--"The separatist diplomacy of President Anwar as-Sadat has landed in an impasse, from which one sees no way out", the political commentator of IZVESTIYA, Stanislav Kondrashov, writes in today's issue of the newspaper. On the one hand, it cannot challenge the entire Arab world and the Egyptian people by making a deal, sanctioning the Israeli conquests. On the other hand, the logics of the Egyptian-Israeli dialogue dictate adherence to the line of defeatism and capitulation.

On the one hand, the disastrousness of the new course has been so convincingly demonstrated by the actual events that it would be natural to announce its bankruptcy. On the other hand, after the made overtures, such an announcement would be extremely dangerous for the political future of the author of the "peace initiatives."

"Even Jordan and Saudi Arabia, whose support Cairo expected to get, realize into what a snare the separatist diplomacy has fallen and regard it with caution and criticism. Egypt has actually landed in an American 'corral,' face to face with Israel, under the surveillance and supervision of Washington. Hence, the attendant consequences. Hence, the hopes on Washington."

"Hence," the commentator continues," "the political colouring of As-Sadat's recent trip beyond the ocean with its smack of desperation, which can be our judge."

The Egyptian president wanted the Americans to "settle the dispute" in his favour and to agree to pressure the Israeli Government. In this spirit the Cairo press predicted the trip to yield "historic results." More sober, if not ironical, forecasts were heard from the American coast. The analyst James Reston predicted that Carter's meeting with As-Sadat at Camp David would rather resemble a philosophy seminar or even a Sunday school lesson than anything else.

The Camp David "seminar" upset As-Sadat's main stake and dispelled his principal illusion, which he tried to impress upon the Egyptian people and other Arab states. This illusory stake boiled down to the assertion that if Egypt and the other Arab states proved their trustworthiness to America (dependability from the viewpoint of American interests in the Middle East) Washington would side with the Arabs, would make Israel abandon its policy of expansion and aggression, would ensure a just and all-round settlement on the conflict.

"The United States does not mind having Egypt among its allies, if Cairo, currying favour with Washington, promises to pull its chestnuts out of the fire in the present conflict in the region of the Horn of Africa, and, in this case, the new American mercenaries may be encouraged by a batch of warplanes," the commentator points out. "However, the U.S. priorities in the Middle East remain with Israel, the principal ally and forepast [as received] of American imperialism. The services of Egypt will be used only insofar as they do not upset these priorities."

EGYPT WARNED AGAINST CONSEQUENCES OF U.S. ARMS DEAL

LD151915Y Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Aleksey Zlatorunskiy commentary]

[Text] U.S. President Carter has submitted recommendations to Congress for the sale of aircraft to Israel, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Congress will have a month to decide whether to approve or reject the request. Reports from Washington say that the delivery of the aircraft to Egypt, if approved by Congress, will be within the framework of the agreement which was reached between Carter and As-Sadat.

In connection with these reports, comments have appeared in the Western press saying that an important step has been taken toward achieving a military balance in the Middle East. Is this correct?

Washington reports indicate that Carter's recommendations to Congress provide for the delivery to Egypt of F-5E fighter aircraft, which are of limited operational range and are not exactly up-to-date in design.

The recommendation also provides for delivery of 25 F-15's and 150 F-16's to Israel. According to American experts, these aircraft, especially F-16's, are the latest in American aeronautical achievements, are capable of long-range operations, have powerful armament and are equipped for offensive action. At present, Israel has 30 aircraft of this type.

Thus, even if we did not take into account previous American arms deliveries to Israel, worth many billions, and just considered the American President's current recommendations, it would be very clear that the assertion about the military balance is absurd.

Obviously, the main point here is not the military but the political aspect of the question. Above all, it is noteworthy that the delivery of the most modern American weapons to Israel comes at a time when Tel Aviv has noticeably hardened its Middle East policy. Recent statements by Iseraeli leaders clearly show that Tel Aviv, in spite of Cairo's capitulationist concessions, is pursuing a course based on the complete annexation of Arab territory occupied in 1967, the expansion and consolidation of Jewish settlements in the occupied Arab territory, the liquidation of the Palestine resistance and the division of Lebanon.

Even the American papers occasionally criticize Israeli intransigence. But these papers do not determine Washington's policy in the Middle East. What determines it are the tangible actions of the United States, such as the new delivery of American arms to the Israeli aggressors.

The political aspect of the delivery of some weapons, although outdated, to Egypt is also quite clear. This decision was made after As-Sadat declared several times that American weapons would not be used against Israel in any situation but were necessary for Egypt, as he puts it, to defend its interests on the African Continent. In this connection, the Syrian papers say that As-Sadat is trying to assume the task of suppressing the national liberation movements. The Algerian paper AL-MUJAHID says that Egyptian diplomacy has undertaken an extensive destabilization campaign on the African Continent. The Libyan news agency says that the United States is making Egypt its policeman in Africa. Have such hard words any foundation in truth? No, unfortunately. [as heard] This is proved, for example, by the events in the Horn of Africa. While steady efforts are being made to halt the war between the Somali and Ethiopian brothers, Egypt offers military aid to Somalia and thus, in practice, is marching along the road of the imperialist quarters in the United States and other NATO powers.

What certainly gives rise to caution is Cairo's threat to Libya whose anti-imperialist foreign policy has incensed the West for some time. But these acts by Egypt are unrelated to its interests even if the United States agrees to reward Cairo with some old weapons. These acts will strengthen Egypt's link to a policy alien to the Arabs.

CRITICISM OF USSR ROLES IN MIDEAST, AFRICAN HORN REFUTED

LD151424Y Moscow in English to Africa 1330 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The president of the Sudan, Ja'far Numayri, has made a series of attacks on Soviet foreign policies. In the Middle East, Numayri claims, the Soviet Union is playing a role which causes apprehension. As the Sudanese leader puts it, the Soviet Union is seeking supremacy in the region of Africa's Horn and intends to seize Africa part by part. The absurdity of such statements is plain to see, TASS commentator Georgiy Kovaldin points out.

It is well known the Soviet Union builds its relations with other states on the basis of mutual respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity and noninterference. It does not seek any unilateral advantages or benefits. The Soviet Union has consistently supported the Arab struggle against imperialist and reactionary schemes for greater national independence. Selfless Soviet aid and support to Arab countries in the economic, political and military areas has proved effective on many occasions and has been praised by Arab countries, the Sudan included.

The Soviet Union advocates a comprehensive settlement in the Middle East. It demands an Israeli withdrawal from all the captured Arab lands, satisfaction of the rights of the Palestinian people to have a state of their own and works for the establishment of lasting peace in the region. This is a principled position and it assumes special importance now when the separatist moves of the Egyptian leadership, its policy of unilateral concessions to the aggressor, have toughened the position of Israel and worsened the prospects of a fair settlement. In the opinion of the Algerian paper AL-MUJAHID, the present development of the situation in the Middle East calls for a proper assessment of the role of the Soviet Union and the importance of its solidarity with the Arab countries.

It is obvious, the TASS commentator observes, that official Khartoum holds a different view. It is small wonder therefore that the Sudan was the first, if not the only Arab country, that at once and without any conditions expressed support for the anti-Arab course of Cairo and its steps against the PLO and the Palestinians in general. As to their assertions about Soviet plans to establish supremacy in Africa's Horn, this country has clearly and more than once formulated its position with regard to the conflict between Ethiopia and Somalia.

The Soviet Union feels that Somali-Ethiopian relations should be settled through negotiations on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and noninterference on the basis of the immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory.

Meanwhile, and it is a known fact, a number of reactionary Arab regimes backed by imperialist powers, the United States in the first place, are assisting the expansionist plans of the present leadership in Somalia. It is obvious, the TASS commentary concludes, that unfriendly statements by Sudanese leaders especially when they contradict commonsense and distort facts, will hardly serve the cause of Soviet-Sudanese relations or promote settlement of the conflicts in the Middle East and on the African Continent.

COMMISSION INVESTIGATES LEBANESE CLASHES; TRIBUNAL APPROVED

LD152010Y Moscow TASS in English 1736 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Beirut, February 15, TASS--A disturbing atmosphere persists in Beirut. Schools and shops remain closed in the eastern districts of the city. Two bombs exploded in the business centre yesterday causing several casualties. A fire broke out at the munition dump of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in the Beirut's suburb of Halde. Five Saudi soldiers were wounded.

The command of the inter-Arab peace-keeping force in the Lebanon announced that it intended to cut short resolutely any attempts to aggravate the situation in the country, discharge resolutely its peace-keeping duties.

The commission for the investigation of armed clashes between the Syrian troops, incorporated in the inter-Arab peace-keeping force, on the one hand, and some detachments of the Lebanese Army and supporters of the conservative "Lebanese front", on the other, will resume its work today. An emergency tribunal is expected to be formed in conformity with the bill, approved yesterday by the Lebanese parliament.

A statement, issued by the central political council of the national-patriotic forces, stresses that the restoration of the Lebanon's unity is possible only given a genuinely democratic reorganization of the state institutions. The central political council called for unity and for the coordination of actions among all the Lebanese forces that are coming out against the threat to the country's unity.

ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER TO VISIT U.S. IN EARLY MARCH

LD161025Y Moscow TASS in English 1024 GMT 16 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Washington, February 16, TASS--It is officially announced here that Israeli Prime Minister Begin is to arrive in the USA early in March for talks with President Carter.

Announcing this, a spokesman of the State Department said American-Israeli relations are of a lasting and strong character. The Israeli prime minister's visit is not connected with the U.S. decision to supply arms to the Middle East.

U.S. AID BENEFITS ISRAELI WAR MACHINE, NOT MASSES

TA122107Y Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Hebrew 1730 GMT 9 Feb 78 TA

[Excerpts] Official Israeli propaganda praises and glorifies American aid and Washington's Middle East policy. If this is to be believed, one gains the impression that the U.S. is devoting all its resources to Israel out of concern for Israeli political stability, security and prosperity. However, in order to assess American aid objectively one should take a closer look at the various aspects of American policy.

The principles of what is called the Pacific Doctrine play an important part in U.S. foreign policy. This is built on the remnants of the shotgun policy and open military aggression and indicates that certain U.S. imperialistic circles, who understand that direct military intervention in Third World affairs has little chance for success, have not given up their aim of expanding and strengthening their influence through a third party. It is the Israeli leaders who serve as this party for the imperialists in the Middle East, and they have become the defender of U.S. interests in this region. In consideration, they receive financial, military and political support from the partners across the ocean.

It should be stressed that the policies which arise from this alliance are implemented against the national interests of the people of Israel. Thanks to this policy, Israeli workers live in the shadow of constant fear of a military conflict and carry the heavy burden of the economic crisis.

Has American diplomacy brought any benefit to the people of Israel? Has it brought the day of peace closer to Israel? The facts show that the opposite is the case. Kissinger's shuttle policy failed. The step-by-step diplomacy or the diplomacy of partial steps did not produce an agreement.

The Egyptian-Israeli talks have not led to results and these were conducted with the blessing of the United States. They have reached a dead end because they sidestepped the key issues of a settlement.

Perhaps U.S. financial and military aid serves the interests of the working masses in Israel? The answer is no. Why? All the financial injections from the United States are aimed at increasing Israeli militarism, and the arms coming from across the ocean are accummulated to prepare for a new war. Who can say for sure that the large funds received from the United States have, in fact, been invested in health services, education or housing? The huge loans for military purposes, the donations from the Zionist organizations in the United States, credit, all these are being swallowed by Israel's war machine. The American creditors are not altruistic. Israel is not only forced to pay back the principal but also the interest. The country's foreign debts are increasing at a frightening pace, as is the balance of payments deficit. This is the reason for the state of Israel's dependence on the United States.

EGYPT'S AFRICAN POLICY HOPES FOR SUPPORT FOR AS-SADAT

LD111942Y Moscow in English to Africa 1500 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text] The Egyptian minister of state of foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali, is going to pay a visit to the west African countries. His mission is to try and justify the actions of President as-Sadat, who embarked on the road of separate talks with Israel. Here is comment from observer Andrey Dolgov:

Although under President as-Sadat Africa has ceased to occupy the place in Egyptian policy assigned to it by President 'Abd an-Nasir the present Cairo leaders are far from being indifferent to the reactions of independent Africa to their actions. Under President 'Abd an-Nasir support for the African liberation movement and effective solidarity with the struggle against racism and colonialism were among the chief guidelines of Cairo's foreign policy. At that time anti-imperialist activities and cooperation with the progressive Africa regimes won Egypt high prestige on the world scene, in particular in the nonalined movement.

Under As-Sadat however, Egypt has been slowly but surely deviating from the old policy. A striking case in point was Egypt's attitude towards the events in Angola. When the young republic was suffering heavy casualties in the battles against the imperialist puppets, Cairo denied its support for her. But it did take part, together with Morocco and France, in suppressing popular uprising in Zaire's Shaba Province. Observers have been linking Egyptian policy in Africa with American strategy in that part of the world for a number of years. Egypt is becoming more and more active in helping the United States carry out its plans, and these are aimed at weakening national liberation movements and progressive trends on the Africa Continent.

Ethiopia's Ministry of Information and National Orientation issued a statement the other day saying that Cairo had officially admitted sending arms to the Somali aggressor. What's more, there have been reports about sending a 5,000-strong Egyptian force to Somalia to take part in the fighting against the Ethiopian Army. The question is: what aims the Egyptian president pursues. Evidently he hopes that support for the reactionary Africa regimes will help him secure at least some kind of approval of his separate anti-Arab policy of siding with the Israeli aggressor. However, more and more Africa countries express their negative attitude towards the unbefitting actions of the Egyptian president. The anti-imperialist-minded Africa countries realize very well that the Arab world is not As-Sadat alone. He can hardly even be described as its spokesman, for the participants in the recent Algiers meeting opposing the Cairo policy of surrender have denounced imperialist interference in Africa and underlined the importance of support for the African liberation movement.

EGYPT SEEKS TO MEET DEMANDS OF FOREIGN INVESTORS

LD160748Y Moscow TASS in English 0635 GMT 16 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Cairo, February 15, TASS--TASS correspondent [name indistinct] reports:

The first meeting of foreign investors has taken place in the Egyptian capital. Participating in it are about one thousand Western and Arab businessmen, operating in Egypt due to the "open doors" policy, pursued by the country's leadership in the economic area.

Addressing the meeting, Egyptian Prime Minister Salim tried to present in rosy tones the state of the national economy, which, in reality, is now living through a deep crisis. He claimed, specifically, that the economic development plan for 1977 was allegedly fulfilled 99.8 percent. According to the opposition press organs, this plan was fulfilled only 60 percent.

Denouncing President 'Abd an-Nasir's line aimed at creating the foundations of an independent national economy, Salim said that in recent years twenty laws were passed in Egypt to "unfetter the economy", in other words, to remove most of the restrictions on the operation of local and foreign private capital.

He informed the meeting that practically the entire territory of Egypt was leased to multinational petroleum companies, which are prospecting oil there and will develop the discovered deposits, exporting the bulk of the country's natural wealth in payment for the rendered "services".

Striving to convince the foreign tycoons of the Egyptian Government's serious intentions to place the country's economy at the complete disposal of foreign capitalists, the prime minister noted that approximately 40 foreign and mixed banks were opened in Egypt, i.e. more than there were prior to 'Abd an-Nasir's nationalisation of the banking system. He assured the meeting that foreign banks and companies would be granted all sorts of privileges in the future, too.

It is common knowledge that the foreign investors demand from the authorities the economy's complete transfer to capitalist rails, renunciation of planned economy, higher and guaranteed rates of profit in exchange for bigger capital investments in Egypt. The development of events shows that the Egyptian leadership is readily meeting these demands.

ARAB TU CONFEDERATION EXPELLS EGYPTIAN MEMBER

LD151548Y Moscow TASS in English 1509 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Kuwait, February 15, TASS--The Egyptian Federation of Labour has been expelled from the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, the biggest trade union organisation of the Arab world. The decision to this effect was taken at a special congress of the confederation, which is underway here, in connection with the position of the opportunist leadership of the Egyptian Federation of Labour which supported As-Sadat's course of a separate settlement with Israel.

Speaking at the session, delegates resolutely denounced the Egyptian president's actions and emphasized that these actions inflicted an irreparable damage upon the interests of the struggle for a just settlement of the Middle East conflict.
The so-called As-Sadat initiative is downright capitualtion in the face of the offensive of the imperialism and Zionism, with the United States at the head, against the position of the Arab national-liberation movement, said Nasir al-Fara[illegible], chairman of the General Confederation of Kuwaiti Workers.

PDRY'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS, RELATIONS WITH USSR REVIEWED

LD151328Y Moscow TASS in English 1145 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--Carrying out important socio-economic transformations, aimed at overcoming the consequences of feudalism and colonialism, the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen has taken up the road of establishing an independent national economy, writes the newspaper SELSKAYA ZHIZN. Foreign bank and companies have been nationalised, an agrarian reform carried out. The state and cooperative sectors have firmly taken up key positions in the economy of the country, which made it possible to come over to planning the development of the national economy. Free-of-charge medical attendance of the population has been introduced, the task of full elimination of illiteracy is being successfully coped with, women have been granted equal rights with men, control over prices has been introduced, the housing fund nationalised.

Scores of industrial projects have been built in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in the course of realisations of the first Five-Year Plan of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, adopted in 1974. The manufacture has been mastered of products the country did not produce before, such as, for instance, agricultural implements, cotton fabrics, leather footwear, etc.

Multilateral, mutually-beneficial relations are successfully developing between the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen and the Soviet Union, SELSKAYA ZHIZN points out. Economic and technical cooperation occupies an important place in these relations. This cooperation is successfully under way practically in all branches of the national economy of the republic.

A joint communique on the recent visit to the USSR of member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the United Political Organization--National Front, Prime Minister of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen 'Ali Nasir Muhammad expresses satisfaction with the development of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Democratic Yemen in solution of tasks of socio-economic development of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, strengthening its dependence, sovereignty and defence potential.

KENYA INTERCEPTS EGYPTIAN PLANE EN ROUTE TO SOMALIA

LD151804Y Moscow TASS in English 1700 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 15, TASS--Kenyan fighter planes intercepted over the Kenyan territory an Egyptian military-transport plane "Boeing-707" that was bound for Somalia and forced it to land at the Nairobi airport. The Kenyan news agency reports that 244 bombs, as well as 122-millimetre shells and explosives to the total weight of 20 tons were unloaded from the Egyptian plane.

The agency points out that the Kenyan authorities earlier refused to grant Egypt's request to allow it to deliver cargoes to Somalia over the Kenyan airspace. Nevertheless, violating the ban, three Egyptian military transport planes flew over Kenya early this week. The fourth plane was today intercepted by Kenyan planes.

Additional Report

LD152054Y Moscow TASS in English 2050 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Nairobi, February 15, TASS--Kenyan fighters have intercepted today in Kenyan air space an Egyptian transport plane with ammunition for the Somalian Army. As reported by the Kenyan news agency, this is the fourth Egyptian plane to violate the air space of Kenya in the past three days. According to the agency, the Kenyan Government had previously prohibited Egyptian transport planes to overfly Kenyan territory. Contrary to the assurances of the Egyptian ambassador in Nairobi, these planes carried by no means "humane cargoes". The aircraft, intercepted by Kenyan pilots, contained 200 cases with artillery shells, weighing about twenty tons.

The foreign minister of Kenya, Manyua Waiyaki, demanded an end to the open interference of certain Arabs states in the events in the Horn of Africa. The Kenyan Government, he stressed, will regard arms deliveries to Somalia, intended for the continuation of her aggressive war against Ethiopia, as hostile actions against Kenya. He pointed out that Saudi Arabia was taking an active part in such deliveries. Speaking on the local television, Munyua Waiyaki strongly condemned the Somalian aggression against Ethiopia. Somalian regular troops, he said, invaded Ethiopian territory and are waging an aggressive war against that country. The invasion of Ethiopia, the minister said, is being affected within the framework of the plan to create a "great Somalia" extending also over one third of the Kenyan territory. The Somalian leadership, Munyua Waiyaki stressed, has still not renounced its territorial claims to Kenya.

USSR DENIES HOLDING SOMALI STUDENTS HOSTAGE

LD151516Y Moscow TASS in English 1505 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

["End of a Red-Herring"--TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The REUTER's news service has transmitted a statement of the Somalian Embassy in France, which accuses the Soviet Union of allegedly holding as "hostages" several hundred Somalian students, studying in the USSR, and now wishing to return home. It is claimed that these students were allegedly evicted from hostels, while Somalian planes, which were to take them home, were refused permission to land. We requested a representative of the Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education of the USSR to comment on this statement.

"The statement of the Somalian Embassy in Paris in no way corresponds to reality. It is nothing but an idle fabrication, he told a TASS correspondent. The facts are that the Somalian side did, in fact, take the decision to recall its students from the Soviet Union, though many of them, highly assessing the standards of Soviet education, would have preferred to continue their studies. I should like to note, by the way, that more than 50 students were to receive diplomas of engineers, agronomists, doctors and economists this February-June, but the unexpected step of the Somalian authorities deprived them of this opportunity. It goes without saying that nobody had obstructed or intends to obstruct their return home, the more so since the Mogadiscio leadership does not wish the students of that country to acquire knowledge in the USSR.

As to the assertion that the Somalian students were allegedly 'evicted from hostels', this is also a lie. The students from Somalia, just as from other countries, studying in the USSR, were provided free-of-charge with well-appointed housing, which remains at their disposal to this day."

The Ministry of Civil Aviation of the USSR has categorically denied the claim of the Somalian Embassy in Paris that aircraft of the Somalian air company were allegedly "prohibited" to land in the Moscow airport.

"We have repeatedly asked the Somalian side to inform us about the dates when the aircraft will arrive, but received no answers", a spokesman of the ministry told a TASS correspondent. Thus, the red-herring about the Somalian "hostages" in Moscow, concocted by the Somalian Embassy in Paris, has fallen through. The purpose of this fabrication was to try to slur once again the Soviet Union, the Soviet way of life. But such unseemly designs have never yet brought dividends to anybody.

CONTINUING MATERIAL ON CONFLICT IN HORN OF AFRICA

Mengistu Press Conference

LD151400Y Moscow TASS in English 1356 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Addis Ababa, February 15, TASS--Revolutionary Ethiopia is waging a struggle for peace, social justice and socialism, and we have no other goals apart from defence of the gains of the people's revolution and ensurance of the territorial integrity of our state, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council (PMAC) of Ethiopia, said. Speaking at a press conference he emphasized that Ethiopia is now confronted with a necessity to repulse a large-scale offensive launched by the forces of internal and external reaction with the support of international imperialism. The expansionist circles of Mogadiscio, leaning on an all-round support from NATO countries and reactionary Arab regimes, unleashed an armed aggression against Ethiopia, he said.

We are waging a defensive war the only aim of which is to fully drive the aggressor away from our land, Mengistu Haile Mariam pointed out. Ethiopia has no territorial claims to neighbouring states. We seek only to guarantee the security and inviolability of our borders. Full and unconditional withdrawal of Somali troops from Ethiopian territory and strict observance of the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of each other must be a condition for a solution to the present armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam emphasized, does not intend to invade Somali territory after the liberation of Ogaden from Somali occupiers.

The P.M.A.C. chairman firmly condemned political and material support to Somalia from the United States and other NATO countries. This support, he pointed out, is leading to an expansion of the armed conflict in the Horn of Africa and serves as a potential source of threat to peace throughout the world. The head of the P.M.A.C. mentioned Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Pakistan, and a number of other countries which are used by the bloc of NATO for delivery of weapons to Somalia for the purposes of expanding the aggression against Ethiopia. A large quantity of weapons which are in service of NATO and which were captured by the Ethiopian Army in fighting against Somali troops serves as an evidence of that.

As the head of the P.M.A.C. reported, the support by the west enabled Somali to send tens of thousands of soldiers, 600 tanks and other types of armoured vehicles, 600 artillery pieces and mortars, and more than 40 military aircraft for participation in the aggression against Ethiopia. There is also an evidence that the troops of reactionary Arab regimes, of Egypt in particular, fight on Somalia's side.

If the USA, Britain, and the FRG continue to render an overt support to Somali aggressors, the maintenance of diplomatic relations with those countries will become utterly senseless, Mengistu Haile Mariam stressed.

What is going on in Ethiopia is a radical remaking of the social system in accordance with the wishes of the broad popular masses of the country, the head of the P.M.A.C. went on to say. Ethiopia is living through a stage of the national democratic revolution. No forces on earth can enslave the revolutionary people. Ethiopia is firmly confident of a triumph over the enemies of our revolution. The P.M.A.C. chairman pointed out that the Government of Ethiopia will continue to make efforts in quest of a peaceful solution to the Eritrean problem, the settlement of which, according to him, is being hampered by material support to the secessionists from reactionary Arab regimes.

Mengistu Haile Mariam gave a high appraisal of the attitude of the states of the socialist community towards the events in the Horn of Africa. "We are grateful to socialist countries, first of all to the Soviet Union and Cuba as well as to all progressive and peace forces of the globe for the assistance which they render to the Ethiopian revolution," he said. The countries of the socialist community come out against the aggression and give support to the liberation movement of the peoples of African and other countries. Our struggle is part of the world revolutionary movement of oppressed peoples. We side with the forces that struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism and imperialism, oppression and exploitation, the P.M.A.C. chairman said in conclusion.

Aid for 'Somali Aggressors'

LD151810Y Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

["Backing the Aggressors"--TASS headline]

[Text] Nairobi, February 15, TASS--The bloc of Western powers, the reactionary Arab regimes and some other states are delivering large quantities of arms to the Somalian aggressors that have invaded the territory of Ethiopia. This was stated by the Ethiopian ambassador in Kenya, who said that it is planned to deliver urgently to Somalia the latest arms from the American war bases in FRG territory. Saudi Arabia is preparing to give air cover to the Somalian Army, engaged in hostilities against the Armed Forces of Ethiopia in the Ogaden region.

According to the hatched plan, the ambassador said, five thousand Egyptian servicemen will also be sent to support the Somalian troops in Ogaden. The Egyptian President as-Sadat earlier admitted that he had already sent various arms to Somalia. The British newspaper DAILY TELEGRAPH reports in this connection that the Egyptian arms include, specifically, 35 tanks, artillery pieces and ground-to-air missiles.

The French newspaper LE MATIN writes today that about fifty tanks of American-make, armoured cars and military trucks from the FRG and Italy were delivered to Somalia last week. Saudi Arabia, which has waxed rich on oil sales, pays for the bulk of the military deliveries to Somalia.

Bonn, February 15, TASS--Recruitment of mercenaries for participation in Somalia's aggressive war against Ethiopia is being conducted on a broad scale in countries of Western Europe. A certain Manfred Dumont admitted in the FRG that he was recruiting such mercenaries for Somalia. He offers them two thousand West German marks a month for their services. According to him, 150 persons have already enlisted.

Recruitment of professional assassins is being conducted in other NATO bloc countries, too. According to the magazine NEWSWEEK, a secret deal, concluded between Somalia and NATO representatives, envisages the recruitment of a "big group of Americans with Vietnam war experience". The first batch of such Americans, the magazine says, has already left by air for the Persian Gulf area.

Soviet Position

LD151331Y Moscow ZA RUBEZHOM in Russian No 7 Signed to Press 9 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Our Banner Is Internationalism"]

[Excerpt] Combat Solidarity

There can be no doubt: The military conflict in the Horn of Africa area benefits only the imperialists and reactionary forces which are striving, by kindling fratricidal wars on the African Continent, to eliminate progressive regimes and suppress the national liberation movement of Africa's peoples, while providing themselves with opportunities for interference in the internal affairs of independent states in order to exploit them and obtain superprofits. And so the hostilities between Somalia and Ethiopia, caused by the incursion of Somali troops onto Ethiopian soil, cannot fail to cause concern to all to whom peace and the prosperity of free independent peoples are dear, including, of course, the Soviet Union. Our country is convinced that the only just basis for a settlement of the conflict in the African Horn is the peaceful democratic path based on good-neighborliness and anti-imperialist solidarity. The USSR supports the OAU's efforts aimed at settling the conflict in accordance with the OAU Charter and decisions, and all the more so since this would contribute to developing good-neighborly relations among all the states of the region on the basis of noninterference in one another's internal affairs and mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The policy line adopted by the Western powers and certain of their allies--which use talk of a peaceful settlement as a cover for their interference on the aggressor's side and which use hypocritical displays of concern for the "territorial integrity" of Somalia, which no one is threatening with invasion, as Ethiopia's leaders resolutely stress, as a cover and justification for both secret weapons deliveries to Mogadiscio and the provision of economic aid aimed at harnessing Somalia to the imperialist chariot--is in sharp contrast with the Soviet Union's just position. And, rebuffing the policy of imperialist circles and stressing his country's readiness to negotiate on condition that Somalia withdraws its troops from the seized lands, Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of Ethiopia's Provisional Military Administration Council, has made a high assessment of the USSR's principled position and also of the comprehensive aid the Soviet Union and the other socialist community countries are giving to revolutionary Ethiopia.

In his speech at the conference of European communist and workers parties in June 1976 Leonid Ilich Brezhnev touched on the issue of proletarian internationalism--that is, solidarity among the working class and communists of all countries in the struggle for the common goals and solidarity on their part with the people's struggle for national liberation and social progress--stressing that "this comradely solidarity, of which the communists have been the standard bearer for more than 100 years now, still totally retains its great importance nowadays. It has been and remains a mighty and proven weapon of the communist parties and the workers movement in general."

Our party and the Soviet state are guided by the principles of internationalism in all their activity in the international arena, and the events of the present week are confirmation of this.

Soviet Presence in Ethiopia

AU160919Y Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 13 Feb 78 p 7 AU

[Article specially written for RABOTNICHESKO DELO by Vladimir Lomeyko, APN political observer: "Visions in the Horn of Africa"]

[Text] Are there Russians in Ethiopia? Yes, they are there in accordance with the request of the sovereign government of that friendly country. How many are there? As many as are needed to guarantee the material-technical assistance needed for Ethiopia's self-defense since it has become the victim of aggression. Moscow does not conceal this, but it also strongly refutes the stories about the participation of Soviet troops in combat activity on the Ethiopian side.

Actually, from the very beginning of the conflict the USSR has been for a peaceful solution along the road of negotiations, on the basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity and the inviolability of borders, as well as noninterference in internal affairs. The necessary preconditions for this should naturally be the withdrawal of the Somali forces from Ethiopian territory.

If one follows the history of the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia, one would note that the imaginary USSR involvement heralded by Mogadiscio and some Western capitals "grows" with the increase of the Somali combat actions against Ethiopia. If one adds up the number of USSR combat ships and aircraft, as well as high military commanders headed by the USSR minister of defense, which, according to the Western observers, have been seen in Ethiopia, then one can only be amazed that the Somali forces have not yet retreated.

At the time Siad Barre announced that Ethiopia, assisted by the USSR, was going to attack his country, Somali troops assisted by aircraft, tanks and heavy artillery had already penetrated Ethiopian territory 700 km in the east, and 300 km in the south. The delusion about Soviet troops in the Horn of Africa was intended to divert attention from NATO arms deliveries, which took place through Saudi Arabia and other countries, to support Somalia. After a secret meeting in January this year, Washington, London, Bonn, Paris and Rome formally announced that they had no intention of further fanning the conflict, What happened in practice?

The facts show that Somali troops decided to penetrate Ethiopia only after they had been assured of the generous assistance, which still continues. Somalia's nationalistically inclined leaders, aiming at creating a "great Somalia" by annexing the Ethiopian Ogaden region and the border regions of Kenya and the Republic of Djibouti, are asking Washington and Riyadh for help. In July 1977 Siad Barre visited King Khalid of Saudi Arabia, who agreed to finance arms purchases from the west. After the negotiations between Prince Fahd and Carter on 26 July, Washington announced its decision to assist Somalia in obtaining weapons.

At that time, under the pretext of assisting the "Front for the Liberation of Western Somalia," which was created in Mogadiscio, Somali troops entered Ethiopia. Since then, the Riyadh-Mogadiscio airlift, through which Somalia receives NATO-produced tanks, artillery and aircraft, has been working ceaselessly. The greater part of the bill is footed by Saudi Arabia. However, Saudi Arabia is not alone. Bonn has given Somalia DM 40 million. As-Sadat, who himself is taking money from the West, has given $30 million.

How is one to explain this generousity? Certain Western forces and some Arab regimes are making use of the Somali leaders' nationalistic emotions in order to inflict a blow on the revolutionary transformations in Ethiopia. At the same time, they are trying to erode the USSR's prestige and influence in Africa, especially in the strategically important area of the Horn of Africa. In order to conceal their intentions and justify the Somali invasion of Ethiopia, they need the visions of Russian troops, ships and aircraft in the sands along the Red Sea.

Imperialism's Strategy

LD151433Y Moscow NOVOYE VREMYA in Russian No 7, 10 February 1978 pp 4-6 LD

[Article by V. Sofinskiy and A. Khazanov: "The Horn of Africa in Imperialism's Strategy"]

[Text] There is no longer any shadow of a doubt that current events in the Horn of Africa are the direct result of a plot between the imperialist powers, primarily the United States, and the reactionary Arab regimes. The aim of this plot is to deal a blow to progressive forces in the Red Sea basin. It is no accident that the Horn of Africa has been allocated an exceptionally important role in the imperialist powers' strategic plans. The significance of this region is determined by its geographical position at the junction of two continents, Asia and Africa, and the presence of first-class ports in the Gulf of Aden and in the Indian Ocean, but chiefly by the fact that very important sea routes linking the oil-extracting countries with America and Europe pass through this area. Some 70 percent of the raw material imported by Western Europe passes this way.

In order to maintain control of these very important sea routes the United States and the other imperialist powers, operating through Egypt, Sudan and Saudi Arabia, are attempting to knock together in this area an alliance of reactionary Arab regimes supported by Saudi Arabia's financial might to liquidate the revolutionary democratic regime in Ethiopia, the victim of Somali aggression, and to detach from Ethiopia the northeastern Province of Eritrea by creating a new reactionary Moslem state there which would be a vassal, dependent on its patrons.

Unfounded Claims

The imperialists have made use of the grim legacy of the colonial post in order to implement these plans in the Horn of Africa. A characteristic feature of the map of Africa is that state borders do not coincide with ethnic areas. This is the consequence of the colonial division of the African Continent when the imperialist powers arbitrarily rent the body of Africa without regard for the ethnic and historic peculiarties of the peoples populating the continent.

After gaining independence the African countries kept the borders of the old colonial possessions. One of the basic principles of the OAU Charter and of a number of its decisions is respect for territorial integrity and the stability of existing state borders. And it is right to say that without the wisdom shown by the African leaders concerning this complex question the continent would have become a seething cauldron of endless internecine wars.

However, in violation of this principle and also of the relevant provisions of the UN Charter, the Somali nationalists made substantial territorial claims against Ethiopia demanding that the Ethiopian Ogaden region be incorporated into Somalia. As is known, Somalia is also laying claim to the northern border region of Kenya and the Republic of Djibouti. Somalia's claim to Ogaden was the cause of the Somali-Ethiopian conflict.

As a result of the 21 October 1969 revolutionary changes Somali Army officers seized power in Mogadiscio and formed a Supreme Revolutionary Council which initially proclaimed progressive domestic and foreign policy principles. However, the army's coming to power gave rise to chauvinist and expansionist aspirations among the nationalist-minded officers and bourgeois strata.

Nor were aspirations of this kind alien to the Somali leadership, which had plans for creating a "greater Somalia" by detaching bits of neighboring states. In time these feelings grew.

The Somali leaders' chauvinist ambitions were encouraged by the imperialist powers and the reactionary Arab regimes acting in concert with them. They promised to give Somalia political, military and financial support in order to push it into aggression against Ethiopia. In this way, they were hoping to stifle the Ethiopian national democratic revolution with Somalia's help and strengthen their positions in northeast Africa.

Changes in Ethiopia

The Ethiopian revolution is notable for its radical and profoundly consistent character. After the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] came to power and Emperor Haile Selassie was deposed on 12 September 1974 profound socioeconomic transformations were implemented in the country. Agrarian reform was implemented in the interests of millions of Ethiopian peasants, including the nationalization of land and the liquidation of the system of big landowners. Some 26,000 peasant associations were created involving 7 million peasant families.

The PMAC nationalized private banks, insurance companies and dozens of leading foreign and local enterprises. State finances and the mining and extracting industry were placed under government control. New labor legislation was promulgated. An all-Ethiopian trade union was set up. Although the country's working class is comparatively small and is scattered among small enterprises the national democratic revolution program elaborated by the PMAC acknowledges its leading role in the revolutionary process. Preparatory work is currently being done on the creation of a new vanguard-type political party based on the principles of scientific socialism.

In the national democratic revolution program the PMAC set the task of "the total destruction of feudalism, imperialism and bureaucratic capitalism in Ethiopia and the building of a new Ethiopia and laying of a firm foundation for the transition to socialism through the joint efforts of all antifeudal and anti-imperialist forces."

The revolutionary regime also embarked on the democratic solution of the complex question of the nationality question. On 16 May 1976 the PMAC published a declaration on the peaceful solution of the Eritrean problem on the basis of regional autonomy.

The progressive transformations encountered frantic resistance on the part of the feudal lords and other exploiter elements who were deprived of their privileges by the revolution. The Ethiopian Democratic Alliance monarchist organization and the ultraleftist Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party launched an active struggle against the PMAC. The separatist movement, inspired by outside forces, was strengthened in Eritrea, and its aim was to detach this coastal province. As is known, 45 percent of the population of Eritrea is Moslem. But it has always been part of Ethiopia, the bulk of whose inhabitants profess Christianity. Moreover, historians believe that this area was the "cradle of Ethiopian civilization."

Notwithstanding the Warnings

The imperialist circles and their allies decided to take advantage of the internal struggle in Ethiopia in order to destabilize the situation in the Horn of Africa and deal a blow to the Ethiopian revolution. [paragraph continues]

They began inciting the Somali leadership to aggression against Ethiopia, promising their support in the implementation of plans for the creation of a "greater Somalia." They went to great lengths to persuade the Somali leaders that Ethiopia was an easier target than ever before and that this situation might never arise again.

The motto for the preparations for aggression in Somalia was "now or never," "now" being at the height of the Ethiopian revolution. It will be observed that the present Somali leaders had not undertaken anything of this nature against the imperial regime which had existed before 1974 in Ethiopia. Their claims at that time had been confined to verbal demands for the "return" of Ogaden. They had stuck to the provisions of the joint Somali-Ethiopian communique envisaging the creation of a bilateral commission to insure the withdrawal of both countries' armed forces to points 10-15 km away from the border strip and also of the agreement concluded between Somalia and Ethiopia in October 1965 on the cessation of hostile mutual propaganda on the radio and in the press. It was later, when the revolution had begun in Ethiopia, that the Somali leaders embarked on preparations for aggression.

In this explosive situation the Soviet Union did all it could to prevent the outbreak of an armed conflict in the Horn of Africa. The Soviet Government repeatedly pointed out to the Somali leaders the inadmissibility and danger of attempts to solve the territorial question by means of arms, in particular attempts to send forces into Ogaden.

However, Somali President Siad Barre not only failed to heed the warnings; he plotted directly with the imperialists and reactionary Arab regimes. In July 1977 Siad Barre paid a visit to King Khalid of Saudi Arabia who, as the Washington POST and New York TIMES reported, expressed a readiness to finance Somalia's weapons purchases from the West. Shortly after this Crown Prince Fahd of Saudi Arabia went to the United States. In conversation with President Carter he stressed his country's interest in the giving of Western military assistance to Somalia. On 26 July 1977 the U.S. administration announced its decision to help Somalia to acquire so-called "weapons for defense."

The campaign launched by the imperialist circles and their allies to draw the Somali leaders into their orbit and incite them against Ethiopia was bearing fruit. Events in the Horn of Africa developed rapidly and dramatically in summer of 1977. At the beginning of June the so-called "Ogaden rebels," who were, in fact, terrorist subversion groups trained in Somalia, severed the Addis Ababa-Djibouti rail link, which carried 60 percent of the goods exported and imported by Ethiopia.

Neither the sabotage, the acts of subversion nor the terrorism succeeded in demoralizing the Ethiopian people, who launched an active struggle against the groups sent in from Somalia. Then at the end of July, again masquerading as the Mogadiscio-created "Front for the Liberation of West Somalia," the Somali leaders sent into Ethiopia large contingents of regular forces, including tanks, heavy artillery and aircraft which mounted wide combat actions in order to capture Ethiopian territory. They penetrated 700 km into the country in the east and 300 km in the southern regions.

According to foreign news agency reports, more and more consignments of weapons are being sent to Somalia by the NATO countries. These weapons are immediately dispatched to regular army units invading Ethiopia. Washington also allocates the role of supplier of weapons for Somalia to Saudi Arabia and a number of other Near and Middle East countries. The alliance directed against the people's revolution in Ethiopia has also been joined by China, which is also sending military supplies to the Somali aggressors.

The Soviet Position and Anit-Soviet Insinuations

Proceeding on the basis of the principles guidelines of its foreign policy, the Soviet Union, as always in such cases, took the side of the victim of aggression. At the request of the Ethiopian Government it is giving Ethiopia appropriate material and technical assistance in rebuffing the aggression. This assistance is determined exclusively by Ethiopia's self-defense requirements. The Soviet Union adopted this clear-cut position, which is in keeping with the principles of international law, justice and humanity, despite the fact that it might entail and in fact did entail unfriendly steps by the Somali leadership in respect of the USSR. Under the conditions of the aggression unleashed by Somalia, the Soviet Union currently advocates, as it did before, a peaceful settlement of the conflict between Somalia and Ethiopia by means of talks on the basis of the side's mutual respect for sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and noninterference in each other's internal affairs. The unconditional and immediate withdrawal of Somali forces from Ethiopian territory is of course a necessary prerequisite for a settlement of this kind.

The military adventure undertaken by the Mogadiscio leaders has boomeranged against its organizers. The Somali offensive in Ogaden was halted at the cities of Harar and Dire Dawa. Hopes of a "lightning victory" over Ethiopia were crushed. The interventionist forces are sustaining heavy losses and are demoralized, and soldiers have begun to desert on a massive scale.

Revolutionary Ethiopia, attacked by numerous external and internal enemies, is fully determined to uphold its independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity. Having failed in their attempt to use military aggression in order to break the will of the Ethiopian people, the enemies have now launched a psychological and propaganda war aimed at painting a totally distorted picture of events in the Horn of Africa.

President Siad Barre has made absurd allegations to the effect that the USSR and the other socialist countries are preparing to invade Somalia. He sent a message to Arab state heads via the Arab League, a message abounding in slanderous attacks on the socialist community countries. The Ethiopian press rightly called the Somali leader's accusations against the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries "a smokescreen of slander." Nevertheless, the fabrications were taken up in the United States and certain West European countries who are trying to justify their support for Somali aggression.

In this connection the January TASS statement on the situation in the Horn of Africa was most opportune. It exposed the fabrications of Somali and Western propaganda. [paragraph continues]

"This statement," the ETHIOPIAN HERALD writes, "is a fitting rebuff to the forces who are trying to mask their plans for interference in the Ethiopian-Somali conflict with the help of false assertions about servicemen from the USSR and the other socialist countries participating in combat actions. In fact the Soviet Union did all it could to prevent the conflict. The Somali ruling circles, with their expansionist plans, and, equally, the Western powers, who incited Somali to aggression against revolutionary Ethiopia, bear full responsibility for the continuing tension in the Horn of Africa."

Behind the Aggressor's back

Faced with the facts, the U.S. Administration was forced to admit that on the eve of the Somali forces' invasion of Ethiopia it has consented to supply Somalia with weapons. This admission appears in a State Department statement for the press on 17 January 1978. "It is impossible to imagine, Washington now tries to justify itself, "that the government of any country would have mounted major military actions solely on the basis of consent which was limited and conditional to the highest degree." In the same statement the State Department maintains that "when the military actions began" the United States "withdrew its consent."

But these assertions are refuted by the facts. "The NATO countries and reactionary Arab regimes are giving broad assistance to Somali expansionist circles and are supplying Somali with modern weapons in order to build up the aggressive war against Ethiopia. The testimony of prisoners and the trophies captured on the eastern front are irrefutable evidence of this," the Ethiopian command's statement says.

In January there was a conference in Washington attended by representatives of five NATO countries--the United States, Britain, France, the FRG and Italy--which discussed, behind closed doors, the situation in the Horn of Africa. A communique published at the end of the conference appealed for talks between Somalia and Ethiopia. But this appeal was purely formal. The Ethiopian Government rightly protested against the fact that the conference had not condemned Somalia as aggressor on Ethiopian territory. PMAC Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam addressed the nation on 30 January, saying that the purpose of the meeting in Washington was in fact to coordinate Western countries' efforts in support of Somalia aggression. "Since Siad Barre and his minions are trying to internationalize the war they have started in the Horn of Africa," the paper ETHIOPIAN HERALD noted, "their dangerous policy must be properly assessed not only by the OAU but also by other peace-loving forces. Iran and Saudi Arabia are on the side of the Mogadiscio regime, as are the five Western powers which by coming out now with belated appeals for peace talks. have essentially given the Somali regime time to strengthen its positions in Ogaden."

On 22 January the same paper wrote: "Ethiopia, which is the victim of Somali aggression and is waging a defensive war in defense of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, views the reactionary circles' proposals on holding talks to end the hostilities as a pretext for giving support to Mogadiscio. Ethiopia is prepared to enter into talks only after the total withdrawal of Somali forces from Ethiopian soil."

So, the facts clearly show that Somali aggression against Ethiopia is an element of the wide international conspiracy between imperialism and reactionary regimes seeking to undermine the revolutionary process in Ethiopia, weaken the developing countries' ties with the Soviet Union and hamper the growth of the national liberation movement in Africa, in the Red Sea basin and in the Persian Gulf area. In this situation the Ethiopian people, as Mengistu Haile Miriam said, are fully resolved to uphold the gains of their revolution and the state's territorial integrity. They are struggling for a just cause and are confident of victory. At present, the PMAC Chairman said, the immediate withdrawal of Somali forces from Ethiopian territories is the sole conclusive solution to the problem and guarantee of peace.

NHAN DAN Commentary

LD151000Y Moscow TASS in English 0942 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Hanoi, February 15, TASS--NHAN DAN, newspaper of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, published a commentary in support of Ethiopia's just struggle in defence of its territorial integrity.

It is regrettable, NHAN DAN writes, that the Somali authorities that made a contribution to their country's headway along the lines of progress now made a step backward and got into an abyss of chauvinism. The combining of national independence with socialism, the newspaper points out, is a historical objective law of our epoch. This is a force which is dreaded by international imperialism and reaction. By artificially opposing national independence to socialism, they fan up points of dispute between peoples, first of all the borders and territories questions put by history. "The authorities of Somalia, the newspaper goes on, have already got into this trap. Making use of the difficulties of the initial period of the Ethiopian revolution which had to put up resistance to internal reaction and foreign aggressors, the Somali authorities came forward with territorial claims to Ogaden district, brought troops there, thereby unleashing a sanguinary conflict which has been going on for more than a year."

Vital interests of each nation waging a struggle for independence, freedom and territorial integrity are prompting the necessity to respect the independence, freedom and territorial integrity of other nations. The present conflict in the Horn of Africa must be solved in the spirit of friendship and cordiality. To do differently is to play the game of imperialism. Those who unfortunately fell into narrow-minded nationalism and committed a crime to history should in time come to a stop in the path of dangerous ventures, NHAN DAN warns.

SAO TOME PRESIDENT EXPECTS 'INVASION BY MERCENARIES'

LD151446Y Moscow TASS in English 1401 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 15, TASS--Manuel Pinto da Costa, president of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe, sent the U.N. Security Council a telegram reporting cases of violations of the republic's borders by foreign aircraft and naval ships. Such cases became frequent. The president of the republic drew the attention of the UNO to the seriousness of the obtaining situation and pointed out that the republic's government has information on the preparation of an invasion of the country with the participation of foreign mercenaries.

RHODESIAN AGREEMENT 'WILL NOT SOLVE PROBLEMS'

LD161222Y Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1112 GMT 16 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Lusaka, 16 February--The head of the illegal Smith regime announced in Salisbury that an agreement in principle has been reached with the three "moderate" African leaders regarding their plan for an "internal settlement" in Rhodesia. The agreement concerns the formation of a future parliament and political and economic guarantees for the 270,000 whites. So, after 2 months of shameful bartering, the African puppets, who represent no one, have accepted the basic provisions of the racists' neocolonialist plan, which calls for maintaining their domination under cover of a new, "Africanized" state facade.

The deal envisages constitutional guarantees keeping all the means of production and ownership for the whites. In the future "parliament" 28 seats out of 100 will be given to white deputies who represent only 4 percent of the population. And 23 votes are enough to reject any constitutional amendments.

This means that the present domination by a small group of white settlers over the 6.5 million Africans will be consolidated constitutionally for many years.

It is reported that the composition of a provisional "government" will also be announced in the near future and agreement will be reached on the future "security forces." It will be based on the existing military-political punitive apparatus of the racist regime.

In the opinion of the African and world press, the agreement in Salisbury cannot solve the problems of Rhodesia and will not lead to a cease-fire, because it is utterly unacceptable to the people of Zimbabwe and the Patriotic Front, its sole true representative, recognized by the Organization of African Unity. This deal will alter nothing, said Joshua Nkomo, one of the leaders of the front, in Lusaka. Our armed struggle against the illegal "government" in Salisbury will continue.

The Patriotic Front's principled stand is winning the full support of the independent countries of Africa and all the progressive forces of the world. At the last conference of "frontline" states in Beira, the leaders of Mozambique, Tanzania, Botswana and Angola once again reiterated their full support for the armed liberation struggle of the Zimbabwe peoples. A representative of the OAU Liberation Committee stated in Maputo today that free Africa will in future accord every necessary aid to the Patriotic Front of Zimbabwe.

The progressive African public points out that the shameful deal in Salisbury was aided in every way by London and Washington who pushed the puppets into the speediest acceptance of all of Smith's conditions.

DESAI RESPONDS TO WESTERN INVESTMENT 'PRESSURE'

LD151605Y Moscow IZVEZTIYA in Russian 14 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 4 LD

[I. Kovalev dispatch: "Diktat Rejected"]

[Text] Delhi--Indian Prime Minister Morarji Desai has announced that foreign capital will be allowed into India only within the framework of government industrial policy and in accordance with the laws restricting the activities of foreign companies.

The prime minister emphasized that India does not object to cooperation on the basis of equality with "multinational giants" but is against those giants which would like to see others as dwarfs.

This statement is regarded here as a reply to pressure from the West's monopolies which sought unimpeded penetration of the Indian economy by foreign capital. One such attempt was the talks which representatives of 55 transnational companies had in India recently. As a result of these talks, O. Freeman, the head of the group, declared in Delhi that the conditions for foreign investments in India were not as attractive as conditions in Brazil, South Korea, Indonesia and Mexico, and that India "should accept" any capital investments without limitations on their application.

HARVARD ECONOMIC DELEGATION IN PAKISTAN PROMPTS DOUBTS

LD141115Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Correspondent V. Baykov report: "A Strange Group"]

[Text] Karachi, 10 February--A group of American economic experts from Harvard University has arrived in Pakistan. It has been announced that the purpose of the mission is to study the state of Pakistan's economy and develop recommendations for its further development.

The local newspaper MUSSAWAT casts doubt on the sincerity of the "Harvard group's" intentions, indicating that the United States has always had an interest in Pakistan's existance as an economically backward country. It is against the development of heavy industry in Pakistan, and in particular the construction of a metallurgical plant near Karachi.

"The Harvard group," the newspaper writes, "holds positions which directly contradict the interests and aspirations of the people of Pakistan."

The newspaper draws attention to the fact that the trip is being financed by the Ford Foundation, notorious for its links with the CIA. "The Foundation's links with the espionage organization are no secret, and one member of the Harvard group was once expelled from the country for improper activity," MUSSAWAT notes.

CAMBODIAN TROOPS ATTACK THAI BORDER TOWNS

LD151701Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Correspondent I. Shchedrov dispatch: "Trouble on the Border"]

[Text] Bangkok, 13 February--According to press reports, armed clashes are taking place in southeast Thailand between subunits of the Cambodian and Thai armies. On Saturday the southern Thai city of Klongyai was attacked from Cambodian territory. Some residential districts were destroyed. More than 30 peaceful inhabitants were wounded. The 4,000 inhabitants of this small town were forced to hide in nearby hamlets. After stubborn fighting the attackers retreated to the border. It is also reported that on Thai territory yesterday small Cambodian combat subunits staged an ambush on the highway which runs along the Gulf of Thailand.

An attempt was made from northern Cambodia to capture a Thai village in Ubon Province. The situation on the border remains tense.

SOVIET TRADE UNIONS SUPPORT SRV, PRAISE PEACE PROPOSAL

LD151950Y Moscow TASS in English 1653 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The Soviet working people, trade unions of the USSR, follow with concern the developments on the border of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and Democratic Kampuchea where armed clashes still continue, says a statement of the Central Committee of Soviet Trade Unions.

Proceeding from the vital interests of the peoples of both countries, the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam offered many times to Kampuchea to settle the border issue that was inherited from colonial times on the basis of complete equality, respect of sovereignty and territorial integrity. But the Kampuchean leaders, refusing to hold a meeting and talks, stepped up armed provocations against the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and actually broke off diplomatic relations with Vietnam. It is obvious that this position contradicts the interests of the Khmer people, of the cause of peace and social progress in Indochina and Southeast Asia.

The Soviet trade unions that unite in their ranks over 125 million industrial and agricultural workers and employees, express complete support for the new constructive proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam of February 5 which provide a basis for peaceful solution of the conflict and are in keeping with vital long-term interests of the peoples of Vietnam and Kampuchea, serve the cause of peace and security in that area of the Asian continent.

WFTU, IOJ Statements

LD151400Y Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Prague, February 15, TASS--A statement of the World Federation of Trade Unions on the situation on the Vietnamese-Kampuchean border was circulated here.

In the interests of the two countries the border question must be solved peacefully, by means of talks, as is suggested by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam (SRV), the statement emphasizes.

Prague, February 15, TASS--The International Organization of Journalists (IOJ) is supporting the SRV Government's proposals directed towards a peaceful solution to the Vietnamese-Kampuchean conflict. The IOJ General Secretariat in a statement issued in Prague points out that the SRV Government's proposals correspond to the UN Charter and serve the interests of peace and security not only in Southeast Asia but in the whole world as well.

Solidarity Group Support

LD152014Y Moscow TASS in English 2000 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--The Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee has issued a statement saying that the Soviet public is following with great attention and anxiety the developments on the border of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam with Democratic Kampuchea.

The military solidarity of the peoples of the two fraternal neighbouring states during the years of the heroic struggle for freedom and independence constituted an important factor which ensured the historic victory. The peace-loving and progressive public circles received with a feeling of profound satisfaction the prospects for building a new happy life which opened up before the peoples of the two states. However, the Kampuchean authorities have embarked upon the road of armed provocations and of inciting up hostility between the two peoples. This policy impairs the foundations of solidarity and fraternal friendship, causes great damage to the national interests of both states, contradicts the interests of peace, social progress and security in Southeast Asia and throughout the world.

The Soviet Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee holds that the only sound alternative is to hold negotiations between the two countries to achieve a peaceful settlement of the frontier issue, to normalise relations between Vietnam and Kampuchea, as repeatedly proposed by the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The Soviet public circles are convinced that the peace-loving peoples of Indochina will not allow any imperialist, reactionary forces to sow disunity and to undermine the bonds of fraternity and solidarity between them.

The Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee supports the new constructive proposals of the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, advanced on February 5. 1978, concerning an immediate ceasefire and organisation of meetings with a view to conducting negotiations and signing an agreement, providing for respect of independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Vietnam and Kampuchea.

CAMBODIA'S PERSISTENT REJECTION OF PEACE TALKS NOTED

LD151533Y Moscow TRUD in Russian 14 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[From the international review by S. Modenov: "In the Interests of the Peoples of Vietnam and Cambodia"]

[Text] The emergence of a dangerous seat of tension on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border has provoked natural uneasiness among all friends of the peoples of these two countries who are interested in seeing that peace and friendship reign in the land of Indochina.

On 5 February, as has been reported in the press, the SRV Government made new proposals for the peaceful settlement of relations between the two countries. Vietnam called for the immediate cessation of all hostilities, the withdrawal of the armed forces of both sides to positions deep within their own territories, and the organization of a meeting between the two countries for talks and for the signing of a treaty. This appeal by the SRV met with widespread support from the entire peace-loving international public.

However, Western news agencies, referring to broadcasts by Phnom Penh radio, reported that Cambodia has rejected the new proposals contained in the SRV Government's statement of 5 February. It should ne noted that on the eve of 1978 the Vietnamese Government, guided by the principles of territorial integrity and sovereignty and the establishment of stable, friendly borders, proposed that the Cambodian Government hold a meeting to solve the border question in a spirit of friendship. But at that time, also, the Cambodian leaders, evidently swayed by counsel from outside, rejected a meeting and talks. At the same time they increased their armed provocations against the SRV.

Commenting on the hostilities on the border between the two countries, the Western press observes that Cambodia is relying on external support. AFP reported that the majority of Cambodian military units are equipped entirely with Chinese weapons. As the New York TIMES notes, Peking has sent hundreds of its military advisers to Cambodia.

Having an interest in peace in this region and throughout the world, the Soviet Union believes that only a peaceful solution of the conflict accords with the vital interests of the peoples of Cambodia and Vietnam. Only under peaceful conditions can the peoples of this region engage on the creation of the new life for the sake of which they struggled for many years.

SRV ENVOY THANKS USSR AT MOSCOW NEW YEAR GATHERING

OW091501Y Moscow in Vietnamese to Vietnam 1200 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] A Soviet-Vietnam friendship gathering was held on 7 February in Moscow on the occasion of the Lunar New Year festival. Speaking at the gathering, representatives of various strata of Moscow people and leaders of the USSR-Vietnam Friendship Society wished the fraternal Vietnamese people new achievements in their building of a peaceful, socialist prosperous and strong Vietnam.

In his speech, SRV ambassador to the USSR Nguyen Huu Khieu stressed that the achievements registered by the Soviet Union in its historic development toward communism constitute a strong source of encouragement for the Vietnamese people. He expressed gratitude to the CPSU, Soviet government and people for the disinterested assistance they have given and are continuing to give Vietnam in its socialist construction and for their support for the SRV government's principled stand calling for a negotiated settlement of the Vietnam-Cambodia border problem.

FISHING TALKS WITH JAPAN OPEN IN LENINGRAD

OW160931Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0905 GMT 16 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Moscow, Feb 16 KYODO--Japan and the Soviet Union opened negotiations on a long-term fishery cooperation agreement at Leningrad Hotel Wednesday [15 February] afternoon.

In a plenary session of the talks, delegates discussed technical cooperation in the fishery field and salmon catching in the northern Pacific high seas.

The two countries had taken up the issue of a long-term agreement in their two rounds of the previous fishery talks last year, but substantive discussion was left to the current talks. In the negotiations last year, Japan and the Soviet Union reached accord on fishing within each other's 200-mile fishing zone and catch quotas for 1978. If the current negotiations here reach agreement, the new long-term fishery cooperation arrangement would replace the present Japan-Soviet fishery treaty which is to expire at the end of April.

The Japanese draft proposal for the fishery agreement has not yet been disclosed. But Japanese delegation sources said the Japanese draft would focus on technical cooperation, creation of a joint fishery commission and salmon fishing in the northern high seas outside each other's 200-mile zone.

Regarding the technical cooperation, the sources said Japan would offer higher technologies for artificial hatching, processing and preservation of fish, refrigeration and transport of hauls. This cooperation is believed to be offered to the Soviets in efforts to cope with the Soviet claims on salmon spawned in Russian rivers as well as the Soviet call for a ban on salmon catching in the high seas.

The new joint fishery commission the Japanese are hoping to establish is designed to primarily handle joint control on salmon fishing. The body, if created, would replace a similar commission under the expiring fishery treaty. As for salmon catching in the high seas, there are no international control formula at present. In northwestern Pacific waters, salmon spawned in Soviet rivers is said to account for about 80 percent while Japanese-spawned salmon there is estimated at 10 percent and the U.S.-spawned salmon several percent of the total.

During the current talks here, Japan will suggest that its salmon catches not be reduced drastically from last year's catch of about 65,000 tons. However, rough negotiations are expected regarding the Japanese request on salmon fishing because of the strong Soviet claims on the Soviet-spawned salmon in the waters.

POLYANSKIY HOLDS TALKS WITH NAKAGAWA IN TOKYO

OW140103Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 14 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 14 KYODO--Agriculture-Forestry Minister Ichiro Nakagawa held talks with Soviet Ambassador Dmitriy S. Polyanskiy over dinner at the Soviet Embassy in Tokyo Monday. Quarters concerned said the meeting was held at the invitation of the Soviet envoy.

They said the Soviet envoy intimated at the meeting that the Soviet Union was attaching importance to the problem of fishery resources. This is regarded as meaning that the Soviet's severe stand in respect to the Japan-Soviet negotiations on salmon fishing operations to open in Moscow Wednesday remained unchanged.

Nakagawa and Polyanskiy agreed that they should meet from time to time in the future also for friendly exchanges of views.

JAPANESE INDUSTRIALISTS FAVOR INCREASED SOVIET TIES

LD151147Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 78 Morning Edition p2 LD

[S. Nikolayev report: "In Our Mutual Interests"]

[Text] In Japan the Itochu firm is among Soviet foreign trade organizations' major trading partners. Over the past decade, reciprocal trade with that firm has increased more than 10 times.

The Japanese firm traditionally imports Soviet machine tools, timber, coal, cotton and sea produce. At the same time it supplies our country with pipes, industrial and chemical equipment, and synthetic fiber articles. "We believe," (S. Ozaki), president of Itochu, said in Moscow, "that great opportunities exist for the growth of our reciprocal trade. The firm's participation in the implementing of Soviet-Japanese plans for the development of the natural resources of Siberia and the Far East and in the development of coastal trade creates a good foundation for this. Itochu also intends to increase imports of Soviet machine tool building production which has succeeded in Japan, and to expand the practice of concluding contracts through barter. We also consider scientific and technical cooperation with the USSR, particularly in the chemical industry, heavy machine building and the construction materials industry, to be an important element in developing business ties."

JAPANESE TRADE UNION CONGRESS ADOPTS LABOR PROGRAMS

LD151120Y Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Tokyo, February 15, TASS--A pre-term congress of the general council of Japan's trade unions (SOHYO), that has a total membership of 4,570, has ended its work here. More than 600 delegates adopted a program of action of SOHYO during this year's spring struggle of Japanese working people. The action program of this biggest Japanese trade union center provides for the further mounting of actions by the country's working people for the liquidation of unemployment, for ensuring jobs, for wage raises and improvements of working conditions, for a reform of the unfair system of taxation. A declaration adopted by the participants in the congress voices resolve to raise higher the banner of struggle in defence of the vital rights of the broad popular masses.

CUBAN DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL IN LENINGRAD REPORTED

LD151447Y Leningrad LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 3 Feb 78 p 3 LD

[Excerpts] LENTASS--A Cuban delegation led by Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee Politburo and minister of culture of the Republic of Cuba, is in our country at the invitation of the USSR Ministry of Culture. Yesterday it arrived in Leningrad.

The guests were met at Moscow station by L.N. Zaykov, member of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom Bureau and chairman of the Lensovet Ispolkom; T.I. Zhdanov, secretary of the Leningrad Party Gorkom; A.P. Tupikin, chief of the Leningrad CPSU Obkom Foreign Relations Department; and other officials.

A conversation took place in Smolniy Institute with Yu.F. Solovyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and secretary of the Leningrad Party Obkom. Present at the talks were B.I. Aristov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Leningrad Party Gorkom; N.G. Yeliseyeva, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and deputy chairman of the Lensovet Ispolkom.

The Cuban delegation is being accompanied on its trip by T.V. Golubtsov, USSR deputy minister of culture.

HART CITES SOVIET CULTURAL, IDEOLOGICAL CONTRIBUTIONS

LD141201Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[Article by Armando Hart Davalos, member of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee Politburo: "Toward the Summits of Culture"]

[Excerpt] The internationalist consciousness of Cubans and the outside world's familiarization with our country's accomplishments have also become important factors for the development of national culture. To this must be added the fact that thousands of Cuban travelers have familiarized themselves with the socialist countries' achievements. The writers, artists, specialists and technicians from the fraternal countries whom we receive in Cuba have also made a tremendous contribution to this. The Soviet Union's development in 60 years and the flourishing of its culture have also been a powerful stimulus for the cultural growth of our people.

Imperialism uses culture to hamper the successful spread of the ideas of socialism. The slander campaigns against the USSR and the other socialist countries can serve as an example. The bourgeoisie's ideologists use the most diverse forms and methods of influencing people's awareness, including claims that they are not at all against social changes, that they acknowledge the historical inevitability of socialism. The only purpose of this is to spread slander against the cultural policy and specific cultural measures of the socialist countries.

Marxist-Leninist teaching is the mightiest ideological force of our time, and it has opened a new epoch in the spiritual life of mankind. The Soviet Union has created a developed, rich and free culture of a kind never before known by any people, a culture which has absorbed and developed everything that has been created by the various peoples of the USSR. [paragraph continues]

For our people, who are now solving problems that were solved in the USSR in the past, this is a fine example which is essential to study and is essential to follow. We must make use of the experience offered to us by the great homeland of Lenin, the Soviet Union, in all its fullness and depth.

WFTU CALLS FOR RELEASE OF PARAGUAYAN PRISONERS, SOLIDARITY

LD111516Y Moscow TASS in English 1447 GMT 11 Feb 78 LD

[Text]Prague, February 11, TASS--The World Federation of Trade Unions has called for stronger solidarity with the working people, with all the people of Paraguay. In its statement the federation calls for intensified struggle in order to save the lives and secure the release of thousands of Paraguayan prisoners, to secure the return home of exiled patriots and to ensure the guarantee of democratic and trade union liberties, generally-recognized human rights.

Despite terror and repressions, the resistance to the dictatorship is growing, said Alfredo Alcorta, member of the Central Committee of the Paraguayan Communist Party, who visited the headquarters of the Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions. Strengthening is the unity of workers, peasants, students, intellectuals, who are waging struggle against fascist oppression, against the plunder of national resources by foreign, primarily American, monopolies. The movement of international solidarity renders extensive assistance in this struggle.

A. Alcorta himself acquired freedom after 19 years in prison. The strength of international solidarity is great indeed, he stressed. Thanks to the international movement in defence of victims of terror in Paraguay A. Maidana, J. Rojas, A.M. Palasios and other politicians and trade union leaders were released from prison. A. Alcorta expressed cordial gratitude to the trade unions of all countries, which support the struggle of the Paraguayan working people.

BRIEFS

LATIN AMERICAN SEMINAR IN LVOV--The permanent Latin American students seminar, formed 17 years ago, recently held a 3-day field session in Lvov. The session discussed Latin American youth in the struggle against imperialism for peace and social progress. Reports were delivered by representatives of Cuba, Mexico, Ecuador, Brazil and Colombia, who are students in Moscow's higher educational establishments. [Text] [Kiev Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 13 Feb 78 AU]

DEMICHEV ADDRESSES CONFERENCE OF CULTURAL MINISTERS, OFFICIALS

LD151950Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A conference of the culture ministers of union republics, of the heads of culture directorates of several krays and oblasts in the RSFSR, and of leading officials in cultural and arts establishments was held in the USSR Ministry of Culture from 14 to 15 February. It discussed topical problems connected with the decisions of the December 1977 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, with Comrade Brezhnev's reports at the extraordinary session of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the joint festive session of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet and the RSFSR Supreme Soviet, and with the adoption of the new Soviet Constitution. The conference was addressed by Comrade Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture. Comrades Tyazhelnikov and Shauro, departmental heads in the CPSU Central Committee, took part in the work of the conference, as did officials of the USSR Council of Ministers.

BRIEFS

PERPETUATING STAKHANOV'S NAME--The Ukrainian CP Central Committee and Council of Ministers recently examined the issue of perpetuating the memory of the initiator of socialist competitions for the highest labor productivity in the first 5-year periods, Hero of Socialist Labor Aleksey Grigoryevich Stakhanov. Endorsement was given to the wishes of Kadiyevka city working people in Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast to change the name of Kadiyevka to Stakhanovo city. It was resolved to build a monument to Stakhanov in the city. A memorial plaque is to be placed on the building of the adminstrative and service combine of the Thorezskaya mine under the Thorez anthracite production association, where Stakhanov worked last. The Krasnoarmeysk coal mining association and the mining vocational and technical school No 10 in Thorez city, Donetskaya Oblast, have been named after Stakhanov. Some 26 Stakhanov scholarships have been instituted for the best pupils in the republic's vocational and technical schools. By its decree of 15 February 1978, the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Presidium renamed Kadiyevka city in Voroshilovgradskaya Oblast Stakhanovo. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 15 Feb 78 AU]

TRAINING ATHEIST LECTURERS--Another cycle opened on 15 February at the republic-level permanent seminar for lecturers in atheism and propaganda aktivs. The seminar participants are studying topical questions of the scientific-atheist education of the working people. [Kiev Domestic Service in Ukrainian 1800 GMT 15 Feb 78 AU]

ADDITION TO REPORT ON CPSU LETTER ON EMERGENCY IN ECONOMY

The following addition to the item entitled "CPSU Letter Declares State of Emergency in Economy," published in the 14 February Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page S 1, provides full text of the item:

Add after the first and only paragraph:

It was not long before all these secrets were followed by public acts and actions, since an economy cannot be set on its feet clandestinely, even if an attempt is made to hide the raging crisis. First to appear were four speeches by Kirilenko in only 10 days. An unprecedented event: Brezhnev's heir apparent was used to delivering no more than four in 4 years. At various forums, ranging from the party to a journalists' assembly to a Council of Ministers session to an economists' conference, Kirilenko discussed the same topic: the party's economic campaign. This confirmed his new and exceptional functions at the top of the Kremlin.

Further evidence regarding the significance of the action came in an appeal from the party and government to the trade unions, the communist youth and "the Soviet workers and people." Such appeals to patriotic awareness and revolutionary enthusiasm had been out of fashion for some time, much to Suslov's regret. You only have to cite the title to reveal the motives for the return to such an instrument of vast mass mobilizations, which, before resolving crises, reveal their existence. The appeal is entitled "On the development of socialist competitition for fulfilling and overfulfilling the 1978 plan and on intensifying the struggle to increase production efficiency and work quality."

Reading between the lines of this title one can perceive all the weak points in the economy. Progress is below the levels predicted by the plan and low output and low work quality are being blamed. Finally everything was corroborated by the figures issued by the Central Statistical Administration last week. First it must be realized that the figures on the progress of the plan, published on two full pages of the newspapers, were compiled in a less inscrutable manner than usual. For the first time it was even admitted that not only did production fail to meet the plan objectives, but in fact was below even the previous year's figures. This applies to such important sectors as metallurgy (a 2 percent drop), the meat and dairy industry (another 2 percent drop) and grain production, which yielded 28 million tons less than the 1976 harvest. These figures alone would suffice to give an idea of the troubles now affecting an economy dominated at the top by the famous "steel eaters" and thwarted at the bottom by citizens who hope at last to find more meat and more bread in the shops.

Properly deciphered, the statistical picture reveals even greater problems. Already 2 years ago, when drawing up the new 5-year plan, the Politburo noted that it was by then impossible to maintain the high growth rates on a level almost equal to those of an underdeveloped country. It was decided to set the sights somewhat lower, partly also because the amazing percentages of previous plans existed more on paper than in economic reality. [paragraph continues]

Therefore, the figures for the predicted growth in national income, which in the "heroic" plans of previous years were set around 10 percent a year, were reduced for the current 5 years to 24-28 percent. This means that national income had to increase every year by a minimum of 4.8 percent and a maximum of 5.6 percent. Nevertheless, since the introduction of the plan, the reduced goals have never been attained: The first year showed a 5.2 percent growth, the second 5 percent, while in 1977 the figure dropped to 3.5 percent. The same thing is happening in industry: Production increased by 5.7 percent last year, whereas the party congress had set a figure of 7.8 percent. [Increases in] real per capita earnings have dropped to 3.5 percent; the plan said 4.5 percent.

Calculating somewhat on the basis of these statistical meanderings, one deduces that in order to meet the plan objectives and to make up for the shortfalls so far, the Soviet economy must raise the growth rate to over 8 percent a year through 1980. This is an almost impossible task, judging from the recent production increase figures, which are 3.3 and 4.1 for the past 2 years, as against the 6.8 percent set by the plan. The reasons for this sudden drop can be perceived from the statistics table.

There are four essential reasons: 1--The so-called "nesovershenki," new plants and new technologies which were "stillborn," that is, which never got off the ground, account for over half the "capital" investments; 2--The waste of materials: Despite reaching Khruschev's objective of producing more steel than the other superpower, the USSR manufactures less than half as many steel products as the United States; 3--Lack of incentive for the workers, who received a pay increase of only 2.7 percent, which was cancelled out by the shortage or poor quality of consumer goods: The "consumer" branch of industry is again lagging behind the strategic one, so that since the citizens cannot buy, they have increased their bank savings sixfold, reaching, despite the very low interest rate of only 2 percent, the extraordinary figure of R100 billion deposited in the banks, equivalent to half the entire state budget; 4--The excessive and unforseen strategic expenditure (Africa, the missile race, the neutron bomb).

Be that as it may, the imbalances are such that there are increasingly insistent rumors of a possible revision of the current plan. It would be the first time in postwar history. For a state which depends entirely on planning, this would imply two things: either the point has been reached where it is no longer possible to plan a gigantic economy with outdated methods or the huge apparatus is beginning to get out of control, following its own logic and refusing to obey the dictates of the plan. In view of these alarming alternatives, two trends have reappeared more forcefully: one among the economists, and the other among the usual party activists. Through the writings of Valovoy, Birman and Liberman, the former have called for an umpteenth reform of the system. It is not known what repercussions they have caused in the Politburo.

Judging from the party's letters, the secret one and the public one, and from the total mobilization under the leadership of the reemerged heir apparent Kirilenko, one would say, nevertheless, that yet again in a state of emergency the Kremlin is seeking refuge in discipline, Stakhanovist enthusiasms and sacrifice. This time, however, the intention is somewhat different to unload part of the efforts and sacrifices on the CEMA allies as well. One of the reasons for the current recession--one which Moscow has recognized but never admitted--is that the empire is too expensive. But this is another question.

AGRICULTURAL AFFAIRS

SOLOMENTSEV ATTENDS ZONAL AGRICULTURAL CONFERENCE

LD151926Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Matters concerning increasing the fertility of soils and increasing the output of grain, fodder crops and other agricultural production at sovkhozes and kolkhozes of Western Siberia's Kurganskaya and Chelyabinskaya oblasts were examined in Novosibirsk by the participants of a zonal agricultural conference. Work experience was exchanged and reserves in land cultivation and animal breeding were brought to light.

The conference was addressed by Comrade Solomentsev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers.

KRASNODARSKIY KRAYKOM CHIEF ON KUBAN FARMERS' TASKS

LD151631Y Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Feb 78 Morning Edition p 2 LD

[Article by S. Medunov, first secretary of the Krasnodarskiy CPSU Kraykom: "Spring Concerns: The Cropgrowers of the Kuban are Seeking Reserves To Raise the Yield of the Cornfields"]

[Excerpts] Krasnodar--Here in the Kuban corn very advantageously supplements winter wheat. Not only does it give the highest grain yields, it is also an indispensable fodder for livestock: It accounts for 70 percent of green fodder and 90 percent of silage. Moreover, in our conditions, from the agronomical point of view, it serves as one of the best precursors of winter wheat: Every fall more than 400,000 hectares of grain are grown on corn stubble.

Grain remains the main problem for Kuban cropgrowers, who are faced with a concrete task: to increase the total grain harvest to 8.5 million tons this year and to 9.5-10 million tons by the end of the 5-year plan. The experience of past years shows that the solution of this key problem is within our capabilities. In the jubilee year the kray's graingrowers obtained 8,241,000 tons of grain for the first time, and 4,263,000 tons were transported to state procurement centers, which is above the plan and the socialist pledges adopted. The qualitative aspect should be stressed--the proportion of strong and valuable wheat in the overall total of sales of this crop rose to 82 percent and totaled 2.1 million tons. The kray's working people were congratulated on this labor victory by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

...The corngrowers also made their contribution to this abundant Kuban crop: of the 4,263,000 tons of grain sold to the state, corn accounted for 583,000 tons, including 300,000 tons of especially valuable hybrid and selected seeds, that is, a good half of the RSFSR's corn seed stock. The jubilee year was particularly effective for masters growing the amber grain. A 42-quintal yield was obtained from 271,000 hectares of irrigated land. The total harvest was 1,133,000 tons--the frontier set for 1980 crossed, which made it possible to substantially overfulfill the plan for the sale of corn to the state.

The other day masters of the corn plantations, scientists, party soviet and agricultural workers assembled for a kray conference-seminar at which last year's experience was analyzed in an exacting and businesslike way and the essential provisions underlying today's strategy and tactics in the cultivation and harvesting of corn were again defined. The best results last year were achieved by masters from Adygeyskaya Autonomous Oblast and Bryukhovetskiy, Kanevskiy, Leningradskiy, Primorsko-Akhtarskiy and Timashevskiy rayons. Here on average more than 50 quintals of grain per hectare was grown. In the kray such results were obtained by masters of corngrowing from 65,000 hectares, and 70 farms gathered 55-60 and more quintals per hectare from 30,000 hectares.

These successes were achieved thanks to the fact that in recent years a set of organizational and qualitatively new technological measures in improving cultivation of this crop has been implemented in the Kuban. All corn, regardless of its purpose, is grown by us only according to grain technology. The experience of the last 2 years confirms the correctness of the course taken. The average annual output of grain has increased by 88 percent as against the Ninth 5-Year Plan. The quality of silage has improved. The greater part of it is now procured from the stalks together with the cobs. It has become an indispensable rule for every farm to insure the optimum closeness of corn plants on every hectare, as recommended by science in conformity with the kray's various soil and climatic zones, and also to observe the rule for evenness of the sown area and the harvesting area and to carry out the harvesting with the use of control threshing and so forth.

Today, while speaking of the successes achieved by the Kuban corn growers, it should be noted that in some places the attitude toward corn is still not what this crop merits. This is a cause for concern. Thus, last year eight rayons in the kray obtained a corn harvest of less than 30 quintals per hectare. Farms in such rayons as Labinskiy, Mostovskiy and Otradnenskiy quite recently cultivated corn successfully and gathered more grain per hectare than the average for the kray. At the same time there are farms in this foothill zone where yields are not high. They have held their rayons back. A thorough analysis revealed that there too there is every opportunity to eliminate the backwardness noted. Party, soviet and agricultural organs, together with scientists are adopting the necessary measures to eliminate variations in corn yields as soon as possible. For this there is both good experience and the high-productivity corn hybrids cultivated by Heroes of Socialist Labor M.I. Khadzhinov and G.S. Galeyev, the noted Kuban selection workers and academicians of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, which are divided by district in accordance with each of the kray's soil and climatic zones.

The CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum, at which a profound and pithy speech was delivered by Comrade L.I. Brezhnev, gaged the course of the country's economic development against the principles of the party's economic strategy, specified immediate tasks and outlined a concrete program for further actions. Guided by this program, the kray corn growers have decided this year to gather at least 1 million tons of grain and to sell the state 600,000 tons, including 230,000 tons of high quality hybrid seeds.

Already in all 1,500 mechanized corn growing links well-conceived work plans have been formulated for the sowing in order to carry it out in the time specified by science and confirmed by leading practice. [paragraph continues]

The preparation of high-class seeds of high-yield regionalized hybrids such as "Krasnodarskiy-303," "Vizit-T" and others, is being completed. Reciprocal checks between competing farms and rayons on the high-quality preparation of soil-tilling and sowing machinery, which is concentrated in the mechanized corngrowing links, are drawing to a close. Special commissions will receive each link and issue it with a D-78, that is, a permit for field work for 1978.

At the 25th CPSU Congress Comrade L.I. Brezhnev noted: "...Good seed production organized in a modern way can raise yield by at least 20 percent. That means tens of millions of tons of extra grain and other agricultural produce." Party, Soviet and agricultural organs in the kray attach great significance to seed production, considering it to be a matter of state importance. Trains are now leaving Krasnodarskiy Kray for all parts of the country carrying hundreds of thousands of tons of seeds of various agricultural crops. As for corn seeds, as has already been said, they account for 40-50 percent of the overall total of state purchases in the RSFSR. In 1977 300,000 tons of seeds were sold to the state, as against a plan of 230,000 tons. Every year 9-10 million hectares, or one-half of the country's area of this crop, is sown with these seeds.

This spring seed plots will occupy about 100,000 hectares on the kray's farms, or more than one-third of the total area allotted to corn for grain. The land for this sowing has been well prepared since fall. All the fields will be maintained in a weed-free condition as a result of the application of a whole set of measures elaborated in the kray for the full elimination of weed growth.

I would like also to touch on the problem, which I consider important, of the backwardness of the capacities of grain reception centers in relation to the growth in corn production and above all of the capacities for processing and drying corn seeds. As a result tens of thousands of tons of lovingly grown seed material lie for a long time on open asphalt, which causes a deterioration in quality. The USSR Ministry of Procurement plans to increase drying capacities for corn at its enterprises located in Krasnodarskiy Kray to 33,000 tons by the end of 1980. This means that about 130,000 tons of corn cobs already received will lie on open areas for 25-30 days, awaiting their "turn for drying." This question must be resolved without delay: Everything grown must be preserved.

The corngrowers have serious complaints against industry producing harvesting machinery. The "Khersonets-7" combine in harvesting corn wastes more than 20 percent of the grain, or one-fifth of the crop! Since corn production in the Kuban is increasing yearly, we pose the question of equipping our farms, and above all those supplying seeds, with the new "Khersonets-200" combines, which have recommended themselves well.

Spring--an especially worrying time for every cropgrower--is just around the corner. Great tasks face the kray's working people in the third year of the 5-year plan. Today we have a clear compass: the scientifically founded plans clearly defined in the CPSU Central Committee resolution "on the organizational and political work of the Krasnodarskiy Kraykom in fulfilling the decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress," and in the letter of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Council of Ministers, the AUCCTU and the Komsomol Central Committee.

"It is necessary to maintain and strengthen the labor enthusiasm and rhythm of the jubilee competition," Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said in his speech at the CPSU Central Committee December (1977) Plenum. "To work better today than yesterday, better tomorrow than today." That is the slogan for today.

That is the call sign of spring 1978.

COSMOS-989 LAUNCHED TO CONTINUE OUTER SPACE EXPLORATION

LD141548Y Moscow TASS in English 1537 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 14, TASS--The USSR today put into orbit another satellite, Cosmos-989. It carries scientific apparatus intended for continuing outer space exploration.

The parameters of the orbit are as follows: initial period of revolution 89.5 minutes, maximum distance from earth 354 kilometres and minimal distance 178 kilometres, orbit inclination is 65 degrees.

The instruments on board are functioning normally.

COSMONAUTS CONDUCT TECHNOLOGICAL, GEOPHYSICAL EXPERIMENTS

LD141136Y Moscow TASS in English 1117 GMT 14 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Flight Control Centre, February 14, TASS--Soviet Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko continue working aboard the orbital scientific-research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27. Under the program, they are making preparations for technological experiments. They are erecting equipment which was brought by the automatic freightship Progress-1.

The cosmonauts erected an electric heating chamber in a special lock compartment, installed a control panel for holding experiments and connected plug-and-socket units. After checking the equipment the crew reported on its readiness for the experiments.

During the day the cosmonauts are also getting ready scientific and photo equipment for forthcoming investigations and experiments.

The crew reported that all the operations aboard the orbital complex are carried out in accordance with the program.

Romanenko and Grechko feel well.

Technological Experiment

LD151346Y Moscow TASS in English 1234 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--A TASS correspondent reports from mission control centre: The crew of the Soviet orbital research complex Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 has started the fulfilment of planned technological experiments. Today Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko carried out the first such experiment by means of the installation "Splav" (alloy). To lessen the influence of dynamic perturbances on the course of the experiment, the orbital complex was put in the drift regime under which all engines of the orientation system are switched off.

The cosmonauts placed a capsule containing materials under study into an electric heating chamber installed in a special airlock. After the airlock was depressurised the system of electric heating was switched on. The necessary temperature regime was maintained in the working zone throughout the required period. The process of crystallisation of molten substances followed the programme of regulated cooling. All operations to ensure optimal temperature regimes were performed by means of a programming unit.

After the process of cooling is completed, the capsule will be extracted from the "Splav" installation.

According to data of telemetric information, the onboard systems of the Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 space complex are functioning normally and the cosmonauts are feeling well.

Geophysical Experiments

LD152057Y Moscow TASS in English 1950 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 15, TASS--TASS special correspondent Nikolay Zheleznov writes:

Out of the thousand circuits made by the Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko on board the Salyut-6 station 150 were registered in their log-books as devoted to active observations of the earth's atmosphere, in particular, of silver clouds. This development enables scientists to consider the Salyut-6 expedition as the biggest ever geophysical experiment in space orbit.

The importance of this effort is obvious. The amount of aerosoles and carbon dioxide at various altitudes is growing. Scientists believe that by the year 2000 the discharge of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere will increase 50 per cent as compared with the present time. And this, of course, will introduce substantial changes into the planet's heat balance.

Silver clouds are a kind of yardstick for the geophysicists to judge about the state of the earth's atmosphere. These clouds usually stay in areas close to the polar regions at an altitude of 80 kilometres. Evidently, they are formed of silicon or iron particles getting into the upper layers of the atmosphere from burning meteorites or erupting volcanoes. However, any cloud owes its birth to crystals and there is no water at such altitudes. Evidently, silver clouds are formed by small crystals born as a result of some photochemical processes.

Out of several dozen photographs and drawings already received by scientists from Romanenko and Grechko, the most interesting are those showing a clear division of the clouds into three layers differing in temperatures from minus 130 to minus 150 degrees.

Electrical Furnace Tested

LD160654Y Moscow TASS in English 0545 GMT 16 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Moscow, February 16, TASS--The aim of technological experiments the Cosmonauts Yuriy Romanenko and Georgiy Grechko have got down to aboard the Salyut-6 station is to receive materials perspective for science and technology.

The electrical furnace, which was taken aboard the Salyut-6 station by the Progress-1 cargo spaceship, ensures the required temperature with a precision of up to 5 degrees, and the thermal regime is maintained automatically--with the help of an original computer. Automatic instruments aboard control the melting process. The furnace was assembled in one of locks. Through it the furnace looks into outer space by its butt end. The gain from such a clever location is doubtless. There is no need to think of disposing of extra heat--the inside part of the unit is heated up to more than a thousand degrees.

A scientific commentator of the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA cites today the details of the experiment.

UN Committee Praises Salyut-6

LD151340Y Moscow TASS in English 1247 GMT 15 Feb 78 LD

[Text] New York, February 15, TASS--A session of the scientific-technical subcommittee of the U.N. Committee for Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, that opened in New York, is devoted to accomplishments and prospects in exploration of outer space and uses of scientific-technical progress in this sphere. Representatives of many countries stressed in their speeches that exploration of outer space and its use in peaceful purposes have become a symbol of rapid scientific-technical progress of mankind. They declared for broader explorations in this important field of knowledge in accordance with the principles and spirit of international cooperation in exploration of outer space.

The delegations of a number of socialist and also Western countries expressed their admiration with the long flight of the orbital Salyut-6-Soyuz-27 complex, noting that this remarkable accomplishment of Soviet cosmonautics will be entered with golden letters into the history of space exploration. This was stressed in their speeches by representatives of Australia, Ecuador, Czechoslovakia, GDR, Poland and other countries.

SOVIET SCIENTISTS SUCCESSFUL IN PREDICTING EARTHQUAKE

LD100112Y Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0001 GMT 10 Feb 78 LD

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk--On 9 February a strong earthquake occurred in the Pacific Ocean 120 kilometers from the island of Iturup. At its epicenter it equalled 7-8 points on a 9-point scale. The earthquake was predicted at the forecasting range on the Island of Kunashir. The report was transmitted to the Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk central seismic station, and from there to Moscow, to the research institute of earth physics of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

An earthquake of the same force and in the same region had been predicted 2 and 1/2 days in advance a few days earlier, on 2 February.

In both cases the forecast had been made on the basis of the new so-called hydrogeodynamic method, developed at the Sakhalin integrated research institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences. With many years of observation, scientists have established that the level of water in deep bore-holes drilled on the island of Kunashir begins to go down a certain time before an earthquake--by 10 to 20 centimeters, according to the force of the tremor. Recent events have fully confirmed the conclusions of the scientists.

NEWSPAPER FACSIMILE PRINTING CENTERS SET UP IN 7 MORE CITIES

LD151343Y Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 13 Feb 78 p 4 LD

[A. Androshin article: "A Newspaper From a 'Portrait'"]

[Text] New centers have been commissioned in seven more cities in our country to receive newspapers by the facsimile method. [paragraph continues]

Broadband communications channels will make it possible to speed the delivery of newspapers to the inhabitants of Riga, Zaporozhye, Omsk, Barnaul, Krasnoyarsk, Karaganda and Dushanbe.

"Between Moscow and these cities, so-called channels [trakty] have been set up which consist of cable and radio relay lines along which stations have been placed every 250-300 kilometers to correct the photographic images of newspaper pages," says S.I. Martsenitsen, chief of the USSR Ministry of Communications Main Telegraph Administration. "It will now become possible to transmit photocopies of central newspapers to any of the aforementioned centers. The time needed to transmit one newspaper page via these broadband communications channels is no more than 2.5-3 minutes, regardless of the meteorological conditions which sometimes hamper the prompt delivery of newspaper mats by airplane. From these "photoportraits" printing forms will be prepared in those cities' printing houses.

Thanks to the facsimile method, the times at which three central publications are issued in Riga have been changed, and PRAVDA is being printed by this method in Zaporozhye. Trial prints and reprints of newspaper pages have been obtained in the other cities. S.I. Martsenitsen shows us samples of the photocopies sent to the USSR Ministry of Communications. The specialists have no complaints about their quality. And this is not surprising, for after all the accuracy of the reproduction of each type element and stereotype block at the photo-image reception centers is measured in terms of microns.

It is planned to complete the test transmissions of newspaper pages to the new cities in the immediate future. Then readers living close to these centers will receive several central publications regularly and without delays. Incidentally, as of this year the number of newspapers which are sent via communications channels has been increased. Until now there were 10. The MEDITSINSKAYA GAZETA and UCHITELSKAYA GAZETA have now been added to those. These have started going to 12 cities.

"A year ago PRAVDA reported the start of the experimental transmission of photocopies of central newspapers from the capital to Khabarovsk via satellites of the Orbita communications system," S.I. Martsenitsen continues. "And now the tests of the Moscow-space-Far East line have been completed. This line has been commissioned. Some 11 publications are now sent to Khabarovsk via space communications channels. Preparations have begun for the regular transmission of newspapers via artificial earth satellites to other remote cities of the country too. In the long term it is planned to create such lines between Moscow and Irkutsk, Magadan, Vladivostok and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk."

The building of new reception centers for newspaper pages is continuing. This year transmission lines to Mineralnyye Vody, Ufa, Frunze, Voroshilovgrad, Kishinev, Tbilisi and Baku will be commissioned. It is thought that the day is not far off when it will become commonplace for all the inhabitants of our vast country to receive central newspapers at the same time as Muscovites do.

PACIFIC CONGRESS IN KHABAROVSK--The 14th Pacific Ocean scientific congress will be held in Khabarovsk in 1979. It is anticipated that more than 1,500 scientists from more than 70 socialist, developing and capitalist countries will take part. [Vladivostok Maritime Service in Russian to the Pacific Far East 0700 GMT 11 Feb 78 OW]

JUBILEE MEETINGS GREET 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF ARMED FORCES

Kutakhov at Air Force Conference

LD151337Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 2 LD

[Col K. Kazeykin report: "Military-Historical Conference"]

[Text] A jubilee military-historical conference of officers and generals of the central organizational machinery, academies and scientific research institutions of the air force, devoted to the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Army and Navy, has taken place.

A report entitled "The Soviet Armed Forces on Guard Over the Gains of Great October" was delivered by Chief Mar Avn P. Kutakhov, commander in chief of the air force. In the report significant attention was paid to the sources of the might of the new type of army, the CPSU's concern for strengthening the country's defense capability and the development of the USSR Armed Forces at the present stage. Lt Gen Avn N. Tsymbal, first deputy chief of the Air Force Political Directorate, gave a report on the subject of "the CPSU's leadership--the fundamental basis of Soviet military building and the source of the might of the USSR Armed Forces." He stressed that the strengthening of the party's leading role and its creative, political and organizational activity serves as a most important factor in raising the ideological tempering of our military cadres, who are called upon to train and educate the defenders of the motherland.

Scientific reports were delivered by Col Gen Avn V. Reshetnikov, Col Gen Avn G. Pakilev, Col Gen Avn P. Kirsanov, Col Gen Avn V. Loginov and other comrades. Veterans of the air force, commanders, political workers and cosmonauts took part in the work of the conference.

Batitskiy at Air Defense Meeting

LD151457Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Feb 78 p 2 LD

[Text] A jubilee military-theoretical conference of officers and generals of the main staff and directorates of the commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces [PVO Strany] devoted to the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces has been held. The conference was opened by Col Gen S. Bobylev, member of the military council and chief of the Air Defense Forces Political Directorate. The report "Embodiment of Leninist Ideas and the CPSU's Requirements on the Defense of Socialism's Achievements in Building and Strengthening the Soviet Armed Forces and the Air Defense Forces" was delivered by Marshal of the Soviet Union P. Batitskiy, commander in chief of the Air Defense Forces.

The keynote speaker and the other speakers examined in detail questions of the formation and development of the USSR Armed Forces and the Air Defense Forces. They emphasized that the birth of the Soviet Army and Navy was closely linked with the name of V.I. Lenin, the great leader of the proletarian revolution, and that the CPSU's indefatigable concern for our motherland's defense capability is the chief source of their might.

Much attention was devoted to questions of further raising the effectiveness of party political work among the Air Defense Forces and improving combat control on the basis of making wider use of automated control systems, as well as to tasks of improving work with cadres in light of the requirements of the 25th CPSU Congress and subsequent plenums of the party's Central Committee.

Aliyev Addresses Baku Personnel

LD151529Y Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 4 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[excerpt] AZERINFORM--On the threshold of a portentous festival--the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces--G.A. Aliyev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Azerbaijan CP Central Committee, met with leading personnel of the staff, formations and units of the Red Banner Baku Air Defense District.

Warmly greeting the assembled people, Comrade Aliyev told them about the tremendous successes achieved by the republic's working people during the shock watch of the 10th 5-Year Plan and about their selfless struggle to implement the 25th CPSU Congress decisions.

A weighty contribution to the historic achievements of the land of the soviets, Comrade Aliyev emphasized, is also being made by our valiant armed forces, which have now been safeguarding the creative labor of the Soviet people for 60 years. Everything created by the people must be reliably defended--these words express the lofty purpose of those who are entrusted with standing guard over socialism's great achievements with weapon in hand.

The party's Central Committee, the Central Committee Politburo, the Soviet Government and Marshal of the Soviet Union L.I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and chairman of the Defense Council, personally devote constant attention to enhancing the combat might of the Soviet Army and Navy, to equipping them with modern materiel and weapons and to providing them with everything necessary for the successful fulfillment of their honorable and noble duty.

Speaking of the indissoluble unity of the army and the people, which determines our motherland's invincible defense might, Comrade Aliyev pointed up the increasingly strengthening ties between Azerbaijan labor collectives and the personnel of units and subunits stationed on the republic's territory. Work on the working people's military patriotic education has acquired still greater scope during the preparations for the glorious jubilee of the USSR Armed Forces.

G.A. Aliyev wished the district's soldiers new successes in improving their knowledge and combat skill and expressed the wish that they will continue reliably guarding the southern borders of our socialist homeland.

TIES BETWEEN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES' ARMED FORCES EXAMINED

LD151019Y Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Feb 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "Combat Fraternity"]

[Text] Combat Fraternity.... These two words concisely and thoroughly define the relations between servicemen in the armies of the socialist community countries. Our fraternity was born in the flames of combat in World War II and sealed with blood shed together. [paragraph continues]

United by a common ideology and common aims--the defense of the socialist gains of their countries' working people, peace and progress on earth--the brothers in arms, in a single combat formation, insure the security of the peaceful creative labor of the peoples of the socialist community.

The defensive alliance of fraternal peoples--the Warsaw Pact Organization, within whose framework they carry out their political and military cooperation--has now been in existence for nearly a quarter of a century. The ideological and theoretical basis of this cooperation is Marxism-Leninism, socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism. Loyalty to Marxism-Leninism is the spiritual force which lies at the base of the working people's friendship and the comradely mutual assistance, class implacability toward the enemies of socialism, cohesion and high moral and combat qualities of servicemen in the armies and navies of the socialist community countries.

Unlike bourgeois armies, the armies of the Warsaw Pact countries are inextricably linked with their peoples and are genuinely of the people. They defend the fundamental vital interests of the working people and are boundlessly devoted to their peoples. A close spiritual tie and indestructible ideological and political unity exist between peoples and armies in the countries of socialism. The armies of the Warsaw Pact countries are armies of the friendship of peoples, permeated with the spirit of internationalism, cooperation and fraternal mutual assistance.

The most important source of the strength and might of the military and political alliance of the countries of socialism is leadership on the part of communist and workers parties and their unity and cohesion. Stressing this idea at the 25th CPSU Congress, Comrade L.I. Brezhnev said that the basis of the close cooperation of the countries of socialism, its living soul, guiding and organizing force is the indestructible combat alliance of communist parties and the unity of their view of the world, their aims and their will.

The servicemen of the fraternal countries are well aware of their lofty duty in the armed defense of the socialist community against possible aggression by imperialism. They have their own national military uniform, their own traditions and different languages; but they understand one another excellently, because they are educated by their Marxist-Leninist parties in a spirit of internationalism, study on the basis of joint tactical principles, master the same type of armaments, exchange experience, practise collaboration in joint studies and exercises, are guided by the same socialist military science and are rallied by the traditions of combat fraternity.

Various forms of cooperation and mutual enrichment by experience form part of and are established in the practise of training and educating personnel of the allied armies. For instance, such forms as the exchange of military delegations, the exchange of teachers and students of academies and schools, the holding of joint annual camps, and so forth. The development of such direct contacts between servicemen is a good school for international education and an important means of strengthening friendship and fraternity in arms.

The servicemen of the fraternal socialist armies are aware that the resolution of the crucial tasks before them depends on their high combat readiness and vigilance and on how well they have mastered their military speciality. That is why in military everday life, in the field, in the air and at sea, they are persistently mastering the difficult science of conquering a strong, technically well-equipped opponent in modern combat.

This is also promoted by the broadly developed socialist competition in the fraternal armies and servicemen's various inspirations and initiatives aimed at the high quality fulfillment of combat and political training programs and plans.

The last academic year and the current one are characterized in the allied armies by high political enthusiasm, the launching of competition on a broad scale and an intensification of the struggle for the honorary title of excellent servicemen and leading subunit and unit. This enthusiasm was aroused by the active participation of working people and servicemen of the fraternal countries in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of Great October. Now our combat friends are preparing, together with us, to worthily mark one more glorious jubilee--the 60th anniversary of the army to which October gave birth.

Our brothers in arms--the servicemen of the armies of the socialist community countries, as is noted in the articles by these countries' defense ministers published by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA, regard the 60th anniversary of the Soviet Armed Forces as a major military-political and historical event and as their own common celebration. The main significance of the work being carried out in the fraternal armies in preparation for this noteworthy day is an intensification of the education of servicemen in a spirit of internationalism, combat community and their mobilization for the struggle for new heights in the acquisition of military skill and in raising combat readiness. In this connection great attention is being given to the experience of military building in our country, the combat experience of the USSR Armed Forces, and the achievements of Soviet military science.

In units and subunits lectures, reports and talks are being held on the combat path traveled by the USSR Armed Forces and their great liberating mission in World War II, and evenings on particular subjects, festivals of Soviet films, and exhibitions of photographic documents and political and artistic literature devoted to the Soviet brothers in arms are being organized. In several armies the holding of special weeks and months for combat collaboration with the Soviet Army has been announced. Youth organizations are acting as leaders of tours of the sites of battles between Soviet troops and the fascist invaders. Soviet servicemen are participating actively in events being held in countries where Soviet groups of forces are stationed. Large meetings of brothers in arms and exchanges of experience are taking place, and competitions in military specialists, sports contests and joint concerts of soldiers' artistic performances are being organized.

All this work promotes the further development of cooperation between allied armies, mutual enrichment by experience and the development of friendly ties between brothers in arms.

Soviet servicemen--internationalists and patriots--are greeting the 60th anniversary of the USSR Armed Forces with new successes in the mastery of combat skill, the raising of combat readiness and the strengthening of discipline. They are well aware of their constitutional duty: the reliable defense of the socialist fatherland, the motherland of October, which opened up the era of socialism in the history of mankind. The country's servicemen, who are, as is recorded in the USSR Constitution, an integral part of the socialist community, are aware of their responsibility for its defense against aggressive encroachments of imperialism. They fulfill this, their international duty, in a single combat formation with the servicemen of the fraternal socialist armies.

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